

Mubarak begins mediation

NOUAKHOTT, Mauritania (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt met with Mauritania's Sid'Ahmed Ould Taya Wednesday as he began an effort to mediate in a bloody and bitter ethnic and racial dispute between Mauritania and Senegal. Before meeting the Mauritania chief of state, Mubarak told reporters that the differences between the neighbouring countries were not so difficult they could not be solved with good will on both sides. Mubarak was asked to try to help bring about a settlement in his capacity as current president of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). He was scheduled to make an overnight stop in the Senegalese capital Wednesday night to continue his efforts. An initially minor border dispute last April flared into widespread violence, with hundreds of Mauritians and Senegalese killed in each other's country and many thousands left without homes or property. Each government blamed the other. Efforts to broker a settlement made little headway over the summer, and in recent weeks relations took another turn for the worse.

Jordan Times

An Independent Arab daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان / كافتز يومية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Khartoum forms peace committee

KHARTOUM (AP) — The government has formed a 77-man military and civilian committee to prepare for a peace conference with southern rebels, the official Radio Omdurman said Wednesday. The radio said the committee chairman would be Colonel Muhammad Al Amin Al Khalifa, a member of the 15-man ruling military council. He led the government's delegation last month at the first round of peace talks with the rebels in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa. That round ended in deadlock after the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said it found no "common ground" with the government. Soon after the radio announcement, the state-run Sudan News Agency (SUNA) quoted Khalifa as saying rebel leader John Garang was invited to the opening session Saturday of the committee's meetings. Omar Hassan Bashir, Sudan's military strongman, is scheduled to inaugurate the committee. Khalifa told SUNA the Foreign Ministry had conveyed the invitation to Garang in Addis Ababa. He did not indicate whether Garang had responded.

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King returns from Belgrade



HIM King Hussein

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein returned to Amman Wednesday evening after taking part in the ninth summit of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Belgrade. He delivered Jordan's address to the summit and held side meetings with heads of state attending the conference.

On his last day in the Yugoslav capital, King Hussein had a meeting with Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa with whom he exchanged views on Arab affairs.

The King also had meetings with the presidents of Cyprus and Mozambique as well as the Romanian foreign minister, who headed his country's delegation to the summit.

Upon his return, the King was met by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein, King Hussein's Private Advisor Amer Khammash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad bin Zaid, Cabinet members, senior officials and high-ranking army officers.

Returning with the King was the Jordanian delegation to the summit comprising Prime Minister Sharif Zaid bin Shaker, King Hussein's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Kabul, Islamabad clash in Belgrade

BELGRADE (AP) — Afghanistan and Pakistan traded angry charges at the non-aligned summit Wednesday, accusing each other of supporting and carrying out attacks across their common border.

Afghan President Najibullah said Pakistan soon would be completely isolated in its alleged support of armed aggression against his country.

"In order to achieve their politico-expansionist objectives, Pakistan, the United States and Saudi Arabia have escalated the war against the Republic of Afghanistan from Pakistani territory through financing, equipping and arming the extremist opposition forces and through recruiting and sending of mercenaries and the direct participation of the Pakistani army," he said in a speech late Tuesday.

Begum Nurat Bhutto, mother of Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, said in her address to the 102-nation assembly that "Kabul's allegations are designed to disguise its total rejection by the Afghan people. None of these allegations have been substantiated."

She charged that the Soviet Union was seeking, through military support, to keep "an unacceptable regime" in power in Afghanistan.

"But the Afghan people are united in rejecting a regime that collaborated with a foreign invader," she declared.

She said the Kabul government "has forfeited its right to be associated with the political future of the country."

Brazil crash survivors get food and medicine

SAO PAULO, Brazil (R) — Food and medicine has been dropped by parachute to survivors of a plane crash in the Amazon jungle in which at least 41 of the 54 people on board came out alive, Brazilian officials said Wednesday.

The Varig airlines Boeing 737 was found Tuesday in the remote northern region of Mato Grosso after crashing in the jungle three days ago.

Four passengers walked to a farm near the town of Sao Jose Do Xingu. They said most of those on board were alive, but eight passengers had been killed. On Wednesday a spokesman for the national airline in Sao Paulo said the death toll had risen to 13.

Information on the pilot's crash-landing is still patchy. The newspaper O Estado de Sao Paulo quoted timbermen in the Amazon as saying the plane very nearly made a landing in a dangerous place full of logs.

The newspaper quoted one timberman as saying he and other workers lit their tractor lights and waved their arms warning the pilot not to land.

"He made a great curve to the left. Suddenly he came back flying very low with his wheels out, really big, but he climbed up again and went," the timberman said.

The pilot, Cesar Augusto Padula Garcez, said in his last radio contact that he would attempt an emergency landing in a clearing he had spotted.

"He did not manage to land in the clearing and unfortunately came down in thick jungle," the Varig official said.

She said a rescue operation was under way, but she did not know how many passengers had so far been extracted from the wreckage.

Driving rain and smoke from burning trees hampered rescue operations Tuesday, but an air force Hercules managed to drop food and medicine by parachute to survivors. The air force ministry has said all were to be rescued Wednesday.

The plane came down in one of the most remote regions of Brazil. The town of Sao Jose Do Xingu is a small settlement without electricity, running water or telephones.



Fighters of the Syrian-backed Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) poised to fire at positions held by soldiers loyal to army commander Michel Aoun in the ongoing confrontation in the Lebanese capital.

Palestinians may use arms in uprising, Arafat warns

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat warned Wednesday night for talks with secretary of State James Baker and Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney.

Israeli political sources said Rabin has been discussing with the Americans an Egyptian 10-point plan on terms for elections. Shamir, leader of the rightist Likud party, has refused to address the Egyptian proposal until the Arab World accepts in principle Israel's proposal.

"Shamir made clear he is not prepared to discuss details until Egypt signs on. Rabin has not laid down that kind of marker and therefore hasn't boxed himself into a corner," said one Western diplomat.

"Rabin is in a bit more of a flexible position."

The United States has been encouraging Rabin and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to hold talks on the Israeli plan to let Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza strip elect delegates to talks on an interim settlement.

"We have encouraged a meeting... if it takes place, we'd be happy about it," a State Department official said.

Arafat said in Geneva Wednesday the PLO would only accept elections "under the auspices of the United Nations and as part of a comprehensive Middle East settlement and after the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces."

He added: "We are not asking for the moon, only a human solution. We know the United States gives Israel unlimited support and will not change overnight, but the world is changing."

Yitzhak Rabin, who proposed

the elections plan adopted by Shamir, was to leave for Washington Wednesday night for talks with secretary of State James Baker and Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney.

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he said. He said the Non-Aligned summit had agreed to support the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations.

Israel rejects the idea. "We have agreed to try at the Security Council to speed up convening the international conference. If this is delayed, then we will resort to other measures through the United Nations," Arafat said.

He said the Israeli government has sent the PLO through mediators "some ideas which he have not had time yet to study thoroughly."

Israeli officials have been meeting Palestinians in the occupied territories to discuss the election plan.

The Israeli military authorities in the occupied West Bank said Wednesday they had expelled 74 Arabs since the start of August for overstaying their visitor permits.

Most of the Arabs were sent to Jordan, an Israeli spokesman said. She did not know where the others were sent.

Israeli officials drew a distinction between ordering out these Arabs and the 58 Palestinians the army says it has expelled since the start of the uprising.

"They (the 74) were not expelled. These are people who do not live in the territories but were only visiting. Their permits had expired and they were asked to leave," the spokeswoman said.

Arab panel to revive Lebanon mediation

ALGIERS (R) — An Arab League committee formed to end Lebanon's civil war will resume peace efforts later this month, a diplomatic source said Wednesday.

The source said the foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia would meet in Saudi Arabia to discuss how to reactivate their stalled peace bid.

The heads of state of the three countries were charged by an Arab summit last May with ending Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war. But they suspended their efforts July 31, saying they had reached a dead end.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad had urged the committee to resume its work during talks in Tripoli last week with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, the source said.

Benjedid also discussed the issue with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Hakim Khaddam in Belgrade, where both were attending this week's non-aligned summit, he added.

Damascus, the main power broker in Lebanon, was unhappy with a committee report that criticized Syria for its refusal to set a timetable for withdrawal of its troops from Beirut.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara said in a newspaper interview published Tuesday that only a meeting of the heads of the three governments in the committee could bring progress in Lebanon.

The United States, the Soviet Union, France and several Arab states have also appealed for revival of the committee.

The source said the committee would renew efforts to secure a lasting ceasefire between Syrian-backed militias and forces led by army commander Michel Aoun.

It would also seek early Lebanese presidential elections and a meeting of the Lebanese parliament to discuss political reforms, the source added.

Lebanese leaders have called the Arab committee the country's last chance for a lasting peace. French and Soviet envoys who toured Lebanon and Syria last month also expressed support for the committee.

Moscow has thrown its weight behind Arab efforts to find a solution to Lebanon's war, Soviet diplomats said in Cairo Wednesday.

"We think it best to keep the issue within the (Arab) family," said Soviet political counselor Vladimir Spandarian. Last month Soviet envoy Genadi Tarasov visited Beirut. Baghdad and Damascus to assess ways of ending the slaughter.

"Our approach is to stress the impossibility of a military solution to the conflict and to underline what is possible," Spandarian said in an interview with Reuters. The Soviet Union has close ties with both Iraq, which backs Aoun's administration, and with Syria, which has some 33,000 troops in Lebanon.

"We want to cool things down on both sides," said Spandarian. "Our impression is that the Arab League provides the most suitable way to dampen the crisis."

Moscow was making no attempt to provide its own recipe for peace because, Spandarian said, plans introduced by foreign powers could be interpreted as attempts to interfere and pressure one side or another.

Meanwhile, the United States pulled all its diplomats out of Lebanon Wednesday and shut its embassy amid fears that the building, circled by protesters, could be overrun and staff held hostage (see page 2).

The Lebanese Front, a coalition of Rightist parties and militias including the Lebanese Forces which clashed with Aoun in February, said it was disappointed by the U.S. move.

In west Beirut, civilian Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss declined to comment on the pullout.



The South African intifada?...a tyre is thrown on to a barricade as Cape Town students took to the streets in protest on Wednesday's elections.

S. African whites vote as millions of blacks strike

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Whites voted in a general election Wednesday in towns deserted by millions of voteless blacks staging one of the biggest protest strikes in South African history.

Acting president F.W. de Klerk's ruling National Party (NP) is expected to be returned to power for the 11th time in what could be the last poll to exclude the black majority.

But de Klerk's election pledge to give 25 million blacks a role in government were resoundingly rejected by millions of non-whites who boycotted workplaces and schools on the second day of a national strike against their exclusion from the polls.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's biggest labour organisation, said three million people, including two million non-union workers, and several million schoolchildren took part in the "stayaway."

"The significant thing is that more people have taken action in opposition to apartheid than have voted in the apartheid elections," said COSATU General Secretary Jay Naidoo. He said the strike was the largest in South African history.

"The scale of the protest exposes the government's arguments that a small bunch of agitators are behind the problems in our country," he said.

More than 90 per cent of black workers stayed home in major cities, according to employer organisations, transportation companies and monitoring groups. Most black schools and many for Indian and mixed-race students were closed, along with most businesses in the black townships.

Major townships around Durban, Cape Town, Pretoria, Johannesburg and Eastern Cape cities were quiet. Buses and trains to the city centres were mostly empty.

Train service into Cape Town was delayed by damage from an early morning explosion on the track, the South African Transport Service said.

Analysts predicted the NP might receive less than half the white vote for the first time since 1953.

The Nationalists, who have governed South Africa since 1948, were expected to lose up to 30 of their 123 seats in the 166-member white chamber that dominates South Africa's parliament.

They campaigned on a platform calling for limited black participation at the national level within five years. However, the Nationalists reject black majority rule and a one-man, one-vote system sought by anti-apartheid forces.

The Conservative Party, which favours strict apartheid and

opposes all concessions to the black majority, was expected to benefit the most from National Party losses.

By law and custom, apartheid establishes a racially segregated society in which the 28 million blacks have no vote in national affairs. The five million whites control the economy and maintain separate districts, schools and health services.

The first results were expected at midnight (2200 GMT), three hours after the polls close.

Police banned all election protests in Johannesburg. After escorting television crews away from the area, they used tear-gas and whips to disperse mixed-race people marching with placards through the mixed-race township of Reiger Park near Boksburg, east of Johannesburg. Police said two men were arrested.

They arrested 13 placard-carrying, anti-election protesters at a Durban voting station and dispersed 30 mixed-race protesters at a mixed-race polling booth near Cape Town. A television crew filming the scene was arrested.

More than 200 Indian high school students waved "Don't vote" banners and chanted as they marched three kilometres to a polling booth in Tongaat near Durban. They marched away singing when police threatened them with arrest.

Strike said to hit virtually all Azeri industry

MOSCOW (R) — A general strike in Soviet Azerbaijan, now in its third day, has hit virtually every enterprise in the republic, strike organisers said Wednesday, but public transport was moving normally.

Nazim Ragimov of the Azerbaijani Popular Front, which called for the week-long strike in the southern republic to press its demands for greater autonomy, told Reuters by telephone from Baku that only essential services and food shops were working.

"A mass meeting will be held in Lenin Square this evening to give people precise information on how the strike is going," he said.

"But it is a foregone conclusion that they will vote to continue with the action."

He said public transport, which ran a reduced service on Monday and Tuesday, resumed normal schedules Wednesday.

About 100,000 people attended a similar meeting Saturday, waving red, blue and green flags of the short-lived independent Azerbaijani republic from 1918 and chanting "Strike, strike."

But a Reuters correspondent in Baku Monday saw a limited response to the strike call. While some factories were idle, others were clearly still working and several shops were open. The city

port, however, appeared to have shut down.

The weekly Moscow News said Wednesday that about 100 enterprises in Baku had been shut down by the strike, which had also hit the towns of Yevlakh and Akstaf, as well as the southern region of Nakhichevan.

The central Soviet press has largely ignored the strike, but a brief report on the official news agency TASS Tuesday night said oil refineries were having trouble transporting products and workers.

The Popular Front said earlier that workers on oil rigs were

excluded from the strike call, because wells could not be safely shut down. But it said it would try to prevent oil products being transported outside the republic.

TASS also reported that workers at a brickworks in the town of Lenkoran had rejected strike calls from the Popular Front, "an organisation not yet officially registered."

The Popular Front is demanding recognition from the republic's party and government authorities, the withdrawal of troops from towns and cities and the lifting of a curfew, as well as the reconvening of general elections.

Troops went into Baku and several other regions last year following clashes between Armenians and Azeris over the disputed Azerbaijani region of Nagorno-Karabakh. At least 200 people have been killed in both republics.

Ragimov said few troops were seen in central Baku Wednesday. "There are occasional patrols, but most of them are stationed in Armenian neighbourhoods or regions where the refugees live."

Hundreds of thousands of Azeris and Armenians have fled each other's republics since the violence started 18 months ago.

No progress in Gulf peace talks — U.N. chief

BELGRADE (R) — U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said he was not making progress at talks in Belgrade aimed at reviving deadlocked peace talks between Iran and Iraq.

"I would be dishonest if I said we were making progress. They are talking to me, but that is not enough, we have not made progress," Perez de Cuellar told reporters after meeting Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

U.N. sources said Perez de Cuellar had hoped to break a deadlock in the talks, which started shortly after a U.N. ceasefire resolution ended eight years of war between Iran and Iraq last August.

Perez de Cuellar wanted to meet the heads of state of the two countries at the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Belgrade, but the two decided not to attend.

U.N. officials here said Perez de Cuellar was due to leave Belgrade Wednesday, but it was not clear whether he would meet Iranian and Iraqi officials before his departure.

The peace talks have been deadlocked over Iran's demand for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from its soil and Baghdad's demand for the dredging of a border river.

The two sides blame each other for the lack of progress in the talks.

"The Iranian side is not yet prepared to enter into real talks with us and lead a constructive discussion of Resolution 598," Aziz said after meeting Perez de Cuellar.

"They have not participated as they should have and insist on a

selective approach which does not help and makes a lot of problems," he added.

Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan warned in his speech at the summit Tuesday that the ceasefire would become a state of "no peace, no war" between the two countries.

He accused Iran of sabotaging U.N. efforts to implement Resolution 598, which orders a ceasefire, the withdrawal of troops, exchange of prisoners, reconstruction of war damage and creation of a committee to decide which side started the war.

"We regret that peace has not been achieved yet and that the Iranian regime has not yet demonstrated any tangible desire to reach a comprehensive and lasting peace," Ramadan said.

Ramadan said only direct talks could achieve lasting peace between the two countries, a demand completely rejected by Iran.

He said Iraq was ready to immediately release the prisoners of war and urged the non-aligned summit to exert pressure on Iran to accept the release.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said after talks with Perez de Cuellar in Belgrade Monday his country would only release the prisoners after the Iraqi troop withdrawal. He said Tehran was ready to resume the talks.

Explosion reported at Iraqi plant

LONDON (Agencies) — The Independent newspaper of Britain has said up to 700 people were killed in an explosion last month at a secret defence establishment near Baghdad where Iraq is believed to be developing missile technology.

Quoting U.S. diplomats and Middle Eastern sources, the newspaper said in its Wednesday edition that the blast occurred on the afternoon of Aug. 17, causing a blaze that firefighters took nearly a week to extinguish.

The explosion at the military-industrial complex near Al Hillah, 64 kilometres south of Baghdad, was apparently loud enough to be heard in the Iraqi capital, the newspaper said.

It quoted U.S. diplomats as saying they had received information from Iraqi sources of a major incident in the second half of August in which casualties were "in the low hundreds."

The Independent quoted other sources as saying a third of the huge defence complex, which is understood to contain workers' housing and armament factories, had been destroyed and that 700 bodies had been recovered.

There was no immediate suggestion that sabotage was involved in the blast. One source told the newspaper it seemed to have been caused by material overheating at the plant.

An Egyptian military spokesman confirmed Wednesday an explosion took place in the second half of August at a de-

fence industry complex in Iraq. He gave no details.

There has been no comment from Iraq. Diplomats in Baghdad contacted by telephone said an explosion took place but they did not believe the Independent's estimates of damage or casualties.

The Egyptian spokesman did not give the location of the plant where the explosion took place and said he did not know whether Egyptians worked there. "There might have been some Egyptian civilians working there on private contracts," he said.

The Independent said casualties in the blast appeared to have included Egyptian military and civilian engineers, possibly among Egyptians the newspaper said were working on a missile project with Iraq.

A spokesman for Egypt's main military hospital at Maadi said no cases from Iraq had been admitted recently. The Independent had suggested that the hospital treated many casualties from the explosion.

The Iraqis, with Egyptian help, are believed to be developing a modified version of Argentina's medium-range Condor-2 surface-to-surface missile known as the Badr-2000.

But the missile project, along with a major long-range missile buildup by other countries in the region, has alarmed the Israelis because it would be able to hit Israeli targets, eroding its long-held technological superiority.



A general view of the war-scarred Beirut seen from the eastern half of Lebanese capital

U.S. evacuates embassy in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — The United States evacuated its embassy in Lebanon Wednesday in the face of mounting anti-American protests from Christians in beleaguered east Beirut.

Lebanese security sources said Ambassador John McCarthy had warned the interim government in the Falangist sector that the mission would close unless demonstrations outside ended.

About 400 protesters surrounded the heavily-fortified hill-top embassy Tuesday demanding U.S. support and accusing Washington of complicity in Syria's siege and shelling of the Falangist enclave.

McCarthy and his staff boarded helicopters at 7.30 a.m. An American spokesman in Nicosia said a few hours later the diplomats had arrived in Cyprus.

"The U.S. is not abandoning Lebanon," the spokesman in Cyprus said. "Its personnel will return when the situation permits."

Keith Peterson, press officer for the U.S. embassy in Nicosia, said 30 staff were flown from Beirut to Cyprus and would go on to another destination.

The American spokesman in Cyprus said the mission was evacuated "in response to de-

teriorating local circumstances which no longer permitted the embassy to function effectively."

Western diplomats said Christian protesters had threatened to cut the embassy's water supplies and to lay siege to the building.

The Americans believed that Major-General Michel Aoun, who controls the Falangist enclave, was secretly controlling the demonstrators.

"They felt they had taken enough and decided to get out before Aoun's quarrel with them got worse," a Western diplomat said.

There has been a lull during the past three days in artillery battles which have devastated Beirut since March, although Christians carrying "rambo, where are you?" signs outside the embassy Tuesday fled when shells from Syrian-controlled west Beirut landed in the sea nearby.

The United States has usually had good relations with Lebanon's predominantly Christians. Constitutional deadlock left the country without an elected president a year ago.

McCarthy has since arrived as U.S. ambassador but has not presented his credentials to Aoun — one of the demands raised by the embassy demonstrators.

Washington does business with Aoun but does not acknowledge his claim to be the country's legitimate ruler or that of the rival Muslim-led administration in west Beirut.

Political sources said McCarthy had requested several meetings with Aoun in the past two weeks but had not been given an appointment.

Aoun has for months accused the United States of cowardice in failing to oppose Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, who has 33,000 troops in Lebanon, and supports the government in west Beirut.

A source close to Aoun commented on the embassy evacuation: "We did not ask them to leave. Maybe they left because they felt guilty. Their absence is better than their staying as a false witness."

At least 790 people have been killed and more than 3,300 wounded since Aoun, who commands 15,000 mainly Christian troops, in mid-March declared a "war of liberation" against Syria. Lebanese security staff remained on guard at the concrete and barbed-wire defences of the U.S. mission complex. Christian protesters had left one of their placards stuck in the fence.

"America, call off your Syrian

dogs," it read.

France, Italy, Britain, Belgium and West Germany are now the only Western nations with missions in Lebanon's Falangist enclave.

The United States moved its diplomats to east Beirut in 1983 after pro-Iranian militants bombed the embassy and a U.S. Marine command post in the Muslim sector, killing more than 300 people.

A pro-Iranian suicide bomber killed two Americans and nine other people in the east Beirut embassy complex the following year.

Aoun greeted news of the evacuation with a reference to the biblical tale of fratricide: "It seems the American Cain could no longer stand looking at the Lebanese Abel and thus departed," he told Free Lebanon Radio, a station in the Falangist sector.

Diplomatic sources said Aoun had grown increasingly hostile because he believed the Americans were trying to foster opposition to him among more moderate Falangist politicians.

At a news conference Saturday Aoun accused the United States of backing Syria's "occupation" and said the U.S. administration was working to divide Lebanon.

Afghan convoy battles rebels near Kandahar

ISLAMABAD (R) — A big Afghan government supply convoy is battling Western-backed guerrillas on the road from northern Afghanistan to Kandahar, rebel sources said Wednesday.

The first units have reached Maiwand, some 50 kilometres short of the southern city. The remainder are strung out between there and Delaram, 200 kilometres to the west, they said.

The sources, in neighbouring Pakistan, originally said the first units had reached Kandahar but then said later reports made clear the convoy was still some distance from the city.

Heavy fighting was continuing. The sources, in neighbouring Pakistan, said the supply train was sent from Torghundi on the Soviet border after Mujahideen rebels tightened their noose around Kandahar airport, making flights more hazardous.

Guerrillas from several parties ambushed the convoy all the way through Farah and Helmand provinces with rockets and mines. The rebel sources said about a tenth of the vehicles were destroyed but the rest seemed likely to get through.

There was no independent confirmation of the rebel claims. The rebels said at least 40 Mujahideen were killed and 65 wounded in the fighting. They put casualties among President Najibullah's men higher.

"A lot of troops were killed, it was a very big operation," one

source said. Government planes supplied air cover from Shindand Airbase in Farah, but were hampered by a big rebel attack on the base last week, the sources said.

A spokesman for the Jamiat-Islami Party said earlier that more than 500 rebels took part in the attack, damaging the runway and buildings and inflicting heavy casualties.

Kandahar, like several other government-held cities far from Kabul, has had only tenuous road links with the Afghan capital since the last Soviet troops left Afghanistan in February.

They receive food from local farmers or traders from across the border in Pakistan, but rely on air supply for munitions.

Military activity around Kandahar, a former capital of Afghanistan, has been minimal for most of the summer.

The rebels' in interim government, based over the Pakistani border in Peshawar, has appealed to quarrelling guerrilla groups to end the bloody feuds which threaten to split the movement.

A statement issued Tuesday night said it was the "Islamic" duty of the Mujahideen to overcome divisions based on party lines and unite against President Najibullah's government.

"Once again we appeal to the Mujahideen at the battlefields to avoid all sectarian and personal disputes for the sake of the protection of our national interests," it said.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Iran, Bahrain discuss strained ties

BELGRADE (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati held talks in Belgrade on Tuesday with Bahrain's Emir Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa on strained relations between the two countries, Iranian sources said. They said the two discussed ways of improving ties, damaged after the support given by Gulf countries to Iraq in its war with Iran. They also talked about deadlocked U.N.-sponsored peace talks between Iran and Iraq, they said. Velayati, representing Iran at the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Belgrade, held similar talks on Saturday with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah. Relations between Gulf Arab countries and Iran have warmed after a U.N.-mediated ceasefire ended the war between Iran and Iraq last August. Velayati later met the Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to discuss ways of improving ties, Iranian sources said.

Manila to evacuate workers in S. Arabia

MANILA (AP) — The government has ordered the repatriation of 20 Filipinos working at a clinic in Saudi Arabia after five nurses complained they had been raped by their employer. The Department of Foreign Affairs said it issued the order Tuesday after the Philippine embassy in Riyadh verified the reports. The department said Saudi authorities would also be asked to act on complaints of the Filipinos. According to officials, the Filipinos were working at a clinic in Hail, 700 kilometres north west of Riyadh. They reported to Filipino diplomats in Riyadh that five women nurses had been raped and a male accountant beaten up by operators of the clinic. They said the abuse had been going on for years but the workers were afraid to complain for fear of reprisal. Officials said Filipino diplomats in Saudi Arabia had been ordered to arrange transportation for the workers from Hail to Riyadh and then back to Manila.

Turkish officials in Sofia

VIENNA (R) — Turkey's consulate in the Bulgarian capital Sofia has begun issuing numbered tickets to thousands of would-be emigrants in an effort to clear long queues of people outside the building. "There's a large queue of visa applications which we cannot handle in a single day, or even in a few days, so we are handing out numbers with dates on them so people can come back and apply on a certain day," a consulate official told Reuters Tuesday. Demand for visas has swelled since the end of August when Turkey closed its border to all Bulgarians without entry papers. The closure effectively halted a mass migration of ethnic Turks. More than 310,000 of them have left Bulgaria since June, many fleeing what they said was cultural and religious discrimination. Most entered Turkey on tourist passports.

Algeria legalises 1st opposition party

ALGIERS (R) — The Social Democratic Party (PSD) has become the first legal opposition party in Algeria for more than two decades, the Algerian News Agency (APS) reported. It said Tuesday night the Interior Ministry had approved an application submitted by the party on July 19 under a new law that ends the monopoly of the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) on political life.

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PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Korna
15:40 Children programme
15:45 Hit Squad
16:00 News for the Deaf
16:20 Religious programme
16:30 Health programme
16:40 Programme review
16:50 News in Arabic
17:00 Local series
17:10 Local programme
17:20 News in Arabic
17:30 Arab film

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Champs Elysees
17:40 News in French
17:50 Documentary
18:00 News in Hebrew
18:05 Varieties
18:10 News in Arabic
18:20 Bill Cosby Show
18:30 Max Headroom
18:40 News in English
18:50 News in Arabic
19:00 Arab film

PRAYER TIMES

04:50 Fajr
06:09 (Sunrise) Duha
12:34 Dhuhur
16:08 Asr
18:58 Maghrib
20:17 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Switish
Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
637400.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Ternassians Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
623441.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383.
Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Austrian International Church Tel.
683326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel:
811295.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints Tel. 813817, 821264.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

Gradual drop in temperatures is
expected and some low clouds will
appear in the morning. Winds will be
westerly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba,
winds will be northerly moderate and
sea calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 17 / 29

Aqaba 24 / 35

Dejoris 19 / 35

Jordan Valley 23 / 36

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 39 per cent, Aqaba 30 per
cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police 787111

Fire Brigade 787111

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 663900

Price Complaints 663176

Water and Sewerage 397467

Complaints 787111

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Yousef Hourani 625478

Dr. Mohammed Azzam 642466

Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmad 744685

Dr. Abdul Qader Lala 690208

Firas pharmacy 661912

Ferdous pharmacy 783336

Al Asema pharmacy 670555

Shamsi Hospital 629131

Al Salim pharmacy 636730

Yaacoub pharmacy 644945

Shamsi pharmacy 637660

IBRD:

Dr. Ziyad Arja ()

Al Shatra pharmacy (983238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Walid Halaseh ()

Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate ()

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 663900

Price Complaints 663176

Water and Sewerage 397467

Complaints 787111

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone

Reprints 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661011

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Electric Power 629131

RI Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

Company 636381

Shamsi Hospital 629131

Al-Musabir Hospital 662727

The Islamic, Abdali 66612737

Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646

Jordan, Al-Musabir 771003

Al-Bashir, J. Abdali 7711126

University Hospital 548945

Al-Musabir Hospital 662727

Queen Alia Hospital 60224050

Al-Ahli, Abdali 674155

ZARQA:

Qaza Govt. Hospital (09)86823

Zaza National Hospital (09)98981

Ibn Sun Hospital (09)98982

IBRD:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)773804

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)77273

Al-Ahli, Abdali (02)77100

Al-Ahli, Abdali (02)77100

Princess Haya Hospital (03)24111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal
Jordanian (RJ) information depart-
ment at the Queen Alia International
Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it
should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

16:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

16:40 Damascus (RJ)

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein has delegated the Governor of Mafrag to convey his condolences to the Hisban family on the death of the late Omar Sayel Al Hisban. (Petra)

ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree has been issued approving the law dealing with the Advanced Teachers' Training College. The law defines the college goals, the basis for the formation of the college council, as well as its duties. (Petra)

REGENT CONGRATULATES BRAZIL: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday cabled congratulations to the Brazilian president on Brazil's Independence Day anniversary. In his cable, the Crown Prince wished the Brazilian president good health and the people progress and prosperity. (Petra)

CABINET APPROVES MEETING PARTICIPATION: The Cabinet has approved the participation of the audit bureau in the 13th meeting of the Arab Higher Committee for Audit and Accountancy control which is due to convene in Tunis Friday. The audit bureau will be represented by Dr. Hashem Dabbas. (Petra)

MINISTERS RECEIVE INDIAN ENVOY: Indian Ambassador to Jordan K. Gajendra Singh had a meeting here Wednesday with Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan. They reviewed cooperation between the two countries in local administration, rural development and the exchange of expertise in these fields. The minister said later that full discussion on these matters will be held between officials from Jordan and India during an Afro-Asian conference on rural development due to be held in New Delhi later this year. The Indian ambassador also Wednesday met with Minister of Youth Awar Kheifati to discuss sports and youth affairs. (Petra)

NEW SWISS ENVOY TO ARRIVE: Switzerland is to have a new Ambassador here to succeed Harald Bomer whose tour of duty, which started in September 1985, ends this month. An announcement said that the Jordanian government gave its consent to the appointment of Dr. Dino Scioli to succeed Bomer in the position. Scioli is due here to assume his post by the middle of the coming month and Bomer is due to leave on Sept. 21. (Petra)

TEACHING ISLAMIC ECONOMY: Jordan is taking part in a symposium underway in Abu Dhabi on training university instructors in teaching Islamic economy. Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, director of the Orphans Fund which is affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, is representing Jordan at the meetings. In a statement before his departure for Abu Dhabi, Abbadi said he will deliver two lectures dealing with economic issues within Islam. The symposium has been organised in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank. (Petra)

IRBID FARMERS GET LOANS: The Agricultural Credit Corporation's branch in Irbid Governorate has presented JD 215,500 in loans to farmers during the past eight months. Branch Director Mohammad Shobul said the eighty-seven farmers from Irbid Governorate as well as the districts of Bani Kanana and Koura benefited from these loans. The farmers used these loans to breed cows, purchase new agricultural equipment, start new agricultural projects, dig wells, and buy animal feed, he added. (Petra)

JERASH HANDICRAFT QUARTER: The municipality of Jerash has allocated JD 175,000 to establish a handicraft quarter in the eastern part of the city. The municipality bought fifty dunams and prepared the necessary drawings for this project. Work will begin within two months. (Petra)

YOUTH TEAM BACK FROM EGYPT: The Ministry of Youth Delegation participating in the Arab Vanguard Camp which concluded in Egypt Tuesday has returned home. The two-week event included theoretical and practical programmes as well as scientific lectures and visits to historical sites. The Jordanian delegation held a folkloric show and a photo exhibition. (Petra)

MENINGITIS CONFERENCE IN DAMASCUS: The conference on combating meningitis continued its sessions here with the participation of twenty-three Middle Eastern countries including Jordan. Jordan's representative to the conference, Dr. Ali As'ad, said reports presented to the conference shed further light on the disease and its size in the Middle Eastern countries. The reports showed that there were exorbitant cases in Sudan, Morocco and Egypt at a time when such cases in Jordan were very few, 69 cases by August, As'ad added. This conference is held by the World Health Organisation in cooperation with the Syrian Ministry of Health. (Petra)

ACC INTERIOR MINISTERS TO MEET: Egyptian Deputy Minister of Interior Mustafa Abdul Qader has said that the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministers of interior will hold a three-day meeting on Dec. 1 in Cairo. In a statement he made in Baghdad, Abdul Qader said that the meetings will discuss the resolutions and recommendations the ACC ministers of interior adopted during their first meeting in Baghdad, as well as bolstering cooperation in the fields of security among the ACC ministers of interior. (Petra)

MA'AN HEALTH CENTRES: A number of tenders have been offered in Ma'an Governorate to maintain three health centres in Ma'an city, Shobak, and Wadi Moussa at the cost of JD 16,500. (Petra)

HASHISH PEDDLER JAILED: The military court has sentenced Salem Ali Hussein Ward to two years imprisonment and the payment of JD 2,000 fine for possession of hashish. The military governor endorsed the sentences. (Petra)

NORTH KOREAN ANNIVERSARY: A reception will be held Thursday at the Embassy of North Korea on the 41st anniversary of the establishment of the North Korean Republic. (Petra)

Conference on thoracic surgery to be held Sept. 25

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is organising conference on thoracic surgery on Sept. 25 designed to orient specialists on the latest techniques in the profession and invite an exchange of expertise and views on relevant medical matters.

An announcement at the University of Jordan, which is to host the three-day meeting, said that the Health Ministry, the National Medical Institution, the Jordan University of Science and Technology, as well as the Jordanian Cardiac Society are jointly preparing for the coming conference. It will be attended by delegates from seven Arab countries in addition to Jordan and four foreign nations.

Jordanian specialists will be submitting 12 out of 60 working papers which will be reviewed by the participants mainly focusing on lung cancer and lung transplant according to Dr. Abdullah Qudah, chairman of an executive committee preparing for the coming conference.

Countries to be represented at the coming meeting are Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Britain, France, the Netherlands and the United States.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawamneh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maari at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Jalal Oweisat at the Plastic Artists Association.

★ An anti-smoking exhibition which includes paintings and posters showing the harmful effects of smoking, at Philadelphia Hotel.

EXHIBITION

★ A feature film entitled "The Grapes of Wrath" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Jordan urges IPU to redress situation in occupied lands

LONDON (J.T.) — Jordan has urged the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) which is holding its 82nd meeting in London, to try to redress the situation in Palestine where Israel continues to maintain its occupation of Arab land and deprive the indigenous population of their legitimate rights.

"How can the IPU accept the continuation of the tragedy of the Palestinians in their own homeland, and for how long can the international community allow Israel to consolidate its hold over Palestinian people and their land with barbaric force," asked Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi who represents Jordan at the London meeting.

Referring to the uprising in the occupied lands, Lawzi said it was a natural revolution against injustice and occupation.

He attacked Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for disregarding U.N. Security Council resolutions, for rejecting the idea of an international peace conference on Palestine, for refusing

the idea of swapping land for peace and for denying the Palestinian people the right to self-determination.

Pointing out the atrocities committed by the Israeli authorities, Lawzi said the Palestinian people are killed, wounded imprisoned or deported from their homeland.

Lawzi also directed Jordan's criticism to Iran "which is procrastinating and delaying measures designed to ensure the full implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, and the attainment of permanent peace in the Gulf."

He said the absence of peace in the Gulf region tends to destabilise the whole situation there, and could pave the way for a second war that would threaten world peace and security.

Lawzi discussed Lebanon in his address and said that Jordan supports the Arab League's tripartite committee which is trying to end the 15-year civil strife and safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

He said that Israel's occupation

of southern Lebanese regions is obstructing all peace bids, and its continued air raids and Israeli army incursions into Lebanese territory is seriously aggravating the situation.

In discussing the Third World debt, Lawzi urged various creditor countries to follow the example of France, Japan, Kuwait, Canada and Sweden in undertaking positive steps to help the indebted nations to pay back dues and continue the process of development.

Lawzi proposed that parliaments of the creditor nations decide to postpone the payment of loans by Third World governments for five years and to reschedule the payment to be spread over longer periods.

He said that such moves could help indebted nations adopt austerity measures in budgets, encourage exports and control trade balances, and balance of payments so as to meet their commitments.

In his address, Lawzi tackled the questions of population explosion, nuclear energy, pollution of outer space, and pollution of the environment on Earth, as well as regional conflicts.

He urged nations in general and parliaments in particular to join hands in dealing with such issues.

"It is our duty as parliamentarians to work seriously towards preserving the Earth's wealth and protecting resources and the environment and also help direct efforts towards increasing agricultural production," Lawzi noted.

He said that it is the parliamentarians duty to seek to bolster international détente and encourage nuclear disarmament.

Ministry to start getting complaints on voter lists

AMMAN (J.T.) — A week-long process of submitting protests and complaints by members of the public against the contents of lists of voters in the coming parliamentary election began in Amman and other provinces Wednesday morning.

The process represents the fifth stage in the preparations for the coming elections scheduled for Nov. 8, 1989, according to a statement from the Ministry of Interior.

It said special committees are set up to consider the complaints lodged by citizens concerning the names of those listed for election.

Earlier, a ministry official confirmed that voter cards would soon be distributed to constituencies through provincial governors.

The cards do not carry photographs of the voter who should carry identity papers upon casting ballots.

Foundation opens course for teachers of special education

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing and Speech (QAFFHS) Wednesday opened a second course for teachers employed by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Social Development to train them in ways to provide special education to the hearing-impaired.

Foundation spokesman said that the course, which is organised in cooperation with a group of Italian specialists, is attended by 50 teachers who will be given special training to deal with six to 11-year-old children suffering from hearing problems. The week-long training course also entails assessing the children's improvement and response to training and rehabilitation programmes, according to Mrs. Hanan Touqan, the foundation president.

Touqan said that participants receive training primarily in Jordan, but that could also be followed up abroad.

The foundation, which was set up in 1978 with Italian government assistance, is staffed by Italian and Jordanian experts.

It is an independent foundation though it works closely with the Ministry of Social Development, according to Mrs. Touqan.

The foundation works closely with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), the Uni-

versity of Jordan and a number of organisations.

An annual budget of JD 100,000 which is collected through local and foreign funding from concerned individuals and institutions enables the foundation to carry out its activities and programmes.

Some of the hearing impaired children, being cared for by the foundation come from Syria, Libya, Bahrain, North Yemen and Saudi Arabia in addition to Jordan, according to foundation officials.

Among those attending the opening session was Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas.

Ministry considers setting up another tomato paste factory

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture is currently studying prospects for setting up another tomato paste factory to absorb additional amounts of tomato crop grown in hilly regions of Jordan.

According to a ministry spokesman daily production in rain-fed regions of Jordan is nearly 1,000 tonnes, and a good deal of these amounts is not marketed here and abroad.

This prompts the ministry to set up another factory to process

the tomatoes, to work along with those set up in the Jordan Valley, Al Arida and other parts of the country, the spokesman said.

He said that the ministry is being assisted in its study by specialists from the Ministry of Planning and the Jordan Agriculture Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO); and that the new factory would be set up in the Mafrag region.

According to the spokesman, Jordan produces nearly 320,000 tonnes of tomatoes of which

150,000 tonnes are marketed locally, 120,000 are exported and 50,000 are processed at the factories for tomato paste for local consumption and export.

Meanwhile, a report from Damascus said that Syria plans to export 10,000 tonnes of apples to Jordan during September.

It said the shipment is part of a total of 200,000 tonnes of apples which Jordan has agreed to buy from Syria during 1989 in implementation of a bilateral agreement.



King Talal reservoir water good for irrigation

AMMAN — Extensive monitoring of the water of King Talal Reservoir by Royal Scientific Society (RSS) showed that it is suitable for all kinds of plants with the exception of sensitive ones such as apple, orange, lemon, carrot and onion.

The study, which has been carried out jointly with the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) since

1980, included testing over 2,000 samples. It proved that the fish living in the reservoir are edible if cooked well and that the nutrition level in the reservoir enhances the growth of algae.

This study will be used to provide guidance to farmers on plants which can be irrigated with water to optimise their yield — RSS News.

Amman, Aden discuss economic, agricultural and trade cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministers from Jordan and South Yemen opened meetings here Wednesday to explore the prospect of promoting their countries' cooperation in economic, trade and agricultural fields.

A draft agreement to set up a joint ministerial committee to organise comprehensive cooperation in these fields was reviewed along with a draft agreement that would organise bilateral cooperation in cultural, technical and scientific affairs, according to a statement by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub who led the Jordanian team to the talks welcomed the South Yemeni ministers and said that the meeting reflects the concern of the leadership in Aden and Amman to open new avenues for joint action and cooperation benefiting the peoples of both countries.

Agreement was reached at the opening session on studying draft protocols for cooperation in information, agriculture and health matters according to Petra.

The agency said that the two

sides discussed a draft agreement that would boost trade between Jordan and South Yemen and added that the final version will be signed during the South Yemeni president's coming visit to Jordan.

The delegation which arrived here Tuesday comprises Minister of Industry and Trade Mohammad Othman, who heads his team to the talks, as well as ministers of trade, supply and agriculture.

The Jordanian side to the talks includes apart from Ayoub Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab and Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket.

Senior officials accompanying the two teams attended the meeting at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Attas is making the visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Majesty King Hussein, and the

delegation's current talks here are also designed to pave the way for that visit.

Last February a senior delegation of South Yemeni officials led by Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali paid a several-day visit here culminating in the creation of a Jordanian-South Yemeni Higher Committee to implement joint ventures and pave the way for stronger cooperation between the two countries.

The South Yemeni delegation later paid a visit to the Arab Pharmaceutical Industry Company in Salt and its members were briefed on the company's production programmes.

They toured the plant's different sections and watched a documentary film featuring the plant's development.

Several Health Ministry officials accompanied the delegation on the tour.

According to Health Ministry official, the company exports its products to 25 Arab and foreign countries and employs some 1,000 workers and experts.

Syrian team briefs Khammash on outcome of Damascus talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat Al Khammash held a meeting here Wednesday with a Syrian delegation representing the telecommunications department and the radio and television in Damascus.

The delegation, led by Makram Obeid, the Syrian telecommunications department director general, presented the minister with briefing on the outcome of a meeting between Jordanian and Syrian officials on promoting cooperation in telecommunications.

Earlier, Obeid and Telecommunications Corporations Director General Mohammad Shabed

Ismail co-chaired a meeting to discuss cooperation.

Transport talks

The board of directors of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport company opened a three-day meeting here Wednesday to discuss financial and administrative matters pertaining to operations.

A Syrian team which arrived here earlier Wednesday will together with the Jordanian side work out a programme for discussions on land transport affairs and the company's operations by ministers of transport of Syria and Jordan due to open here Saturday.



Hikmat Khammash

RSS-SJC joint agreement

AMMAN — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has signed an agreement with the Strangbetong Jordan Construction (SJC) to utilise and market Building System-5.

According to this agreement, SJC will be entitled to use this system in carrying out various construction projects in Jordan and abroad.

The RSS will provide the SJC with the precast concrete units and the necessary technical expertise.

RSS will also supervise the various projects and prepare the required architectural, structural, and electromechanical designs.

The SJC, on its part, will carry out projects in accordance with the general and technical specifications of the system.

The RSS has developed the Building System-5 and owns the patent since 1983. This system is economic and easy to handle.

It has been efficiently used in various construction projects in Jordan — RSS News.



Nasouh Majali

Majali urges broadcast staff to boost help to national endeavours

AMMAN (Petra) — Culture and Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali Wednesday held a meeting with the staff of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation and urged them to increase their contribution to the country's current endeavour to carry out an economic reform programme.

Script writers, directors and broadcasters have a serious duty towards their nation at this particular stage when the country is preparing for parliamentary election and exerting strenuous efforts to maintain the process of construction and development, the minister said.

Radio and television has a most responsible role to play in spreading public awareness, in helping to promote socio-economic development and in maintaining an open channel of communication and dialogue between citizens and officials, Majali added.

The minister urged the corporation staff to try to benefit from new ideas and successful experiences, and urged increased cooperation within the information departments so that the joint effort can achieve success.

UNESCO GETS NEW VIDEO TAPES: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Documentation and Information Centre in Amman has received video tapes on the folklore of fifteen countries. This falls within the framework of UNESCO's interest in reinforcing and developing cultural ties and spreading people's customs in various countries. (Petra)

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL AMMAN, JORDAN

Is now open for registrations for the September Term 1989

AGE RANGE:	Boys and Girls aged 3 years to 13 years. A new Kindergarten Class for 3 year olds will open this term with reduced school fees. There are still some places available.
LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION:	English
PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH REQUIRED:	None
OTHER LANGUAGES OFFERED:	Arabic and French
NATIONALITIES ACCEPTED:	All
TEACHING STAFF:	90% British and all qualified and experienced within their speciality
ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE:	Specialist teachers ensure that non-English speakers make very rapid progress
OTHER SPECIALIST TEACHERS:	Science; Maths; English; Physical Education; Music; Drama etc. The aim is to incorporate the best traditions of the British educational system with the needs of an international community
SPORTS:	Football; Basketball; Volleyball; Athletics; Gymnastics etc
TRANSPORT:	Buses are available to cover principal residential areas
ENQUIRIES:	The School is presently accepting registrations for the September term. The School will also be open for registration every Monday in July and August between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 12 noon. The new term begins on Sunday 10th September.

P.O. Box 2002
Tel: 841070

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation, Established 1975

Editorial Director:
RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:
DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:
DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670414-4, 684311, 684366
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 661242

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Edging towards war?

WITH THE death toll among the Palestinians struggling for liberty and self-determination on their national soil on the increase, there is always the danger that the restrained Palestinians will soon lose patience and tolerance and begin to retaliate in kind. Such is the nature of people everywhere who first keep on turning the other cheek with false hopes that their peaceful reactions to repression and occupation could lead them to salvation. There are now persistent reports that patience among Palestinians is running out and fast. What is keeping the Palestinian intifada from exploding ever more fiercely is the haunting fear that that is exactly what the Israeli policy-makers would want the Palestinians to do. The argument follows this way: The Israeli occupation authorities seek to drive the Palestinians to the deepest corner of despair where they will have no choice but to take up arms to defend themselves and the achievements of their prolonged uprising. According to this scenario the Israeli military leaders would then unleash an all-out attack on the Palestinians with the determined aim to quell their uprising.

The lesson from Lebanon weighs heavy on the minds and hearts of the leaders of the Palestinian intifada where an onslaught on civilians and the killing of hundreds of thousands of people did not cause as much as a blink in the eyes of those who might have done something about it. Therefore, there is not much hope pinned on any international intervention on behalf of the Palestinians should the worse come to the worse, and this much programmed for Israeli master plan becomes a reality. The only possible salvation that could come the Palestinian way is an Arab rescue, in which case an all-out war would become imminent.

Even unprepared Arab states could very well find themselves embroiled in such a conflagration by the sheer weight of their feeling of solidarity with their fellow people under occupation. Not to react under such circumstances could be just as dangerous as reacting. In such ominous scenario, an unintended major war could very well end up the consequence of the existing stalemate in the peace process in the Middle East and Israel's refusal to acknowledge facts and realism. There is no need to remind the world about the extent and degree of death and destruction that will ensue should a major outbreak of hostilities occur. Time is ticking away fast in that direction and genuine efforts must be exerted now to avoid such a catastrophe.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian Arabic dailies on Wednesday scrutinised in further detail King Hussein's address to the non-aligned summit in Belgrade. Al Ra'i daily dwelt on a clause in which King Hussein warned of the danger inherent in continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian land in violation of all norms and international principles. All the efforts to bring an end to world tension and enhance security and peace around the globe could be foiled if Israel is allowed to perpetuate its occupation of Arab land, the paper noted. It said that Israel is wrong in its belief that further repression and racist policies and terrorism could subdue the people of Palestine and place the Arab Nation face to face with a de facto solution. What could result of these measures, it said is nothing but further violence and continued struggle for freedom on the part of the oppressed people. The intifada, the paper continued, has opened the eyes of many Israelis to the fact that they cannot continue to ignore the rights of the Palestinian people, as the King did not fail to point out in his address. The King also reminded the Israelis that imperialism and the era of colonialism had long ended; and that the peoples of the world are now liberated from all forms of bondage, said the daily. It said that the King expressed the Arab Nation's hope that the Non-Aligned Movement would double its efforts to help the Palestinians regain their freedom.

The Non-Aligned Movement is discussed in Al Ra'i by columnist Abdul Rahim Omar who outlines the role which the non-aligned countries should play. It is not enough for such countries to declare they are neutral between the Eastern and the Western blocs, or by announcing that they do not favour an escalation of tension or conflicts in any part of the world, the writer notes. He says that the two superpowers have now opted to resolve issues by their own free will and to take actions that were not possible or shunned by them several years ago. Omar urges the Non-Aligned Movement to develop its ideology and promote its action with a view to influencing the United Nations organisation which could pave the way for a solution to many of the world's problems. He says that there can be no real rest or peace for the people of Latin America which are members in the Non-Aligned Movement, for instance, if no settlement has been found for the Palestine question. The circumstances which have urged the superpowers to adjust to the needs of peace and security are the same that should prompt the non-aligned nations to assume a more active and positive role in world politics, the writer concludes.

Al Dastour daily for its part echoed the King's words in which he demanded justice for the Palestinians, and explained the role which the Non-Aligned Movement can play to help the oppressed people to regain their rights. The paper said thanks to continued support and backing from non-aligned countries, the Palestinians are maintaining their just struggle; and thanks to the efforts of the peace-loving nations, the Palestine problem has now acquired priority among numerous world issues at international meetings. King Hussein also made it clear that the Arab Nation has extended a hand to peace and offered all it could to achieve that goal, a move which, he said, has not yet been reciprocated by Israel which continues to deny Palestinian rights. The paper also referred to the situation in Lebanon and the Gulf region and re-emphasised the King's call on the Non-Aligned Movement to help find permanent and just solutions for these problems.

Rockets fuel growing Afghan hatred for Americans

By Robert Block
Reuters

KABUL — Most Afghans don't know any Americans but nonetheless they are learning to hate them.

As Washington continues supplying rockets and other weapons to Muslim rebels fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul, ill feeling towards Americans is increasing in the Afghan capital.

More and more, people on the city's dusty streets and in its bustling bazaars talk about growing hatred for the country which believes it is helping Afghanistan by trying to free it from a pro-Soviet government.

Diplomats in Afghanistan say anti-American feelings stem largely from popular disbelief that the United States could want to continue the 10-year-old war most people are tired of.

The theme has been stressed by Afghan President Najibullah. "Dear Americans, Afghans see themselves as friends of America," he recently told a U.S. television network in perfect English.

"But don't let individuals or groups in your country turn this friendship to hatred. Don't let your tax money be used for destruction and the killing of Afghans," he said.

The president's appeal may already be too late.

When a U.S. television crew tried to film a government tank on Aug. 19, Afghan independence day, the driver wanted to know where the journalists were

from. Learning they were Americans he said he wanted to run them down with his tank.

In another incident an Afghan air force pilot recently asked an American reporter: "Why are you trying to kill me?"

The reporter assured him that he had no such intentions.

"Then why is your government sending rockets to our enemies if it doesn't want to kill me? Soon we will lose our patience and we will kill you."

"Why does America send rockets and bullets here? What we need is bread. From now on if anyone dies in Afghanistan it is America's fault," said a Soviet navigator Mohammad Hassan said.

The situation is only slightly better on the other side. A few of the Mujahideen rebel groups do little to conceal their distaste of Westerners, particularly Americans.

Some fundamentalist Arabs who are joining Afghanistan's jihad, or holy war, are increasing numbers have openly threatened to kill American reporters and aid workers.

But the most dramatic rise in anti-American feeling has taken place not among soldiers or rebels but among ordinary people.

The United States, believing that Najibullah's government was going to crumble in the face of a rebel onslaught, led an exodus of Western diplomatic missions from Kabul before the Soviet troop withdrawal in February.

Among educated Afghans the walkout was viewed as a mistake at a time when they say Afghanistan needed Western support.

But more than anything else it is the U.S. supply of rockets to the rebels which has sparked the average Afghan's hatred.

Most rebel rockets are fired at cities and land on residential areas, not military targets. The rocket attacks have created an atmosphere of fear in Kabul and other cities and have eroded

much sympathy for the Mujahideen.

Since June 25, more than 500 rockets have hit Kabul, killing more than 350 people and injuring at least 1,000, almost all civilians.

More than 30 rockets slammed into Kabul on Sept. 2 as Najibullah left to attend the Non-

Aligned Movement summit in the Yugoslav capital Belgrade. At least 16 people were killed.

"Why does George Bush send these rockets?" is a common question asked by Kabulites. But visiting Westerners hear stronger statements such as "America go home" and "Death to America."

Afzallah, the 46-year-old principal of the Nangahar provincial

secondary school in the eastern city of Jalalabad, where rebels launched as many as 15,000 rockets daily at the height of a guerrilla offensive against the city in May, lost his 11-year-old daughter in one rocket attack.

He asked that a message be relayed to the American people. "Tell them we are tired of war," he said.

Afghan war stalemated

By Robert Block
Reuters

JALALABAD, Afghanistan — Neither the Kabul government nor Western-backed rebels can hope to win the 10-year-old war that has bled Afghanistan white, but the stalemate may benefit the government more, diplomats said.

Six months after Soviet troops left the country, neither side has been able to deal a decisive blow and the longer President Najibullah stays in power the stronger he becomes.

"Najibullah wins by not losing and the Mujahideen lose by not winning," said a government official succinctly.

The most realistic thing both sides have to face up to is that no one can win this war," one Eastern Bloc diplomat said.

Mujahideen, needing to prove themselves in battle before the summer fighting season ends, seem unable to switch from hit-and-run tactics to the conventional warfare needed to seize key cities. They are also plagued by

bitter feuds.

Government forces earned grudging respect from Western military analysts by a string of successes against the Afghan rebels since Soviet troops left, though in fact they won little more than a stalemate.

Even Afghanistan's Defence Minister, Colonel-General Shahnawaz Tanai, admitted to reporters recently an all-out military victory was virtually impossible.

A leaked cable from an U.S. diplomat in neighbouring Pakistan, where seven rebel groups are based, came to a similar conclusion. In the cable, made available in Kabul, he doubted the Mujahideen could topple the government by force.

Still, after 10 years and more than a million lives, tons of weapons continue to pour into Afghanistan from the Soviet Union and the United States and the war carries on unabated.

The best example of the military limitations of both sides was the assault on Jalalabad, Afghanistan's third largest city, on the

road from Kabul to the Pakistani border.

About 15,000 rebels failed to take the Nangahar province capital from some 17,000 government troops. The government in turn failed to press home its success and in effect both sides returned to their positions before the offensive.

"There was no military victory at Jalalabad," said one diplomat in Kabul. "A military victory meant they (government troops) should have pushed the rebels to (the border town) Torkham and swept them out of the country."

Lieutenant-General Manokai Mangal, military governor of Nangahar, said the army had ability to rout the rebels but refrained in line with Kabul's policy of reconciliation.

One military observer offered another reason: "They can't... they don't have the manpower."

Of an estimated 250,000-strong government force, including tribal militia and paramilitary groups, only about 95,000 are regular fighting units, he said. To

try to push the guerrillas into Pakistan would spread government strength too thinly and make the army vulnerable to ambushes.

Military observers said the government had restrained offensive operations to avoid high civilian casualties, unacceptable for a regime trying to widen its base of support.

"The government strategy has been to defend the cities and give up less important areas they can't hold," one Asian military observer said.

Mujahideen still control large parts of the countryside, particularly in border areas near Pakistan.

In what rebels call the biggest offensive in the southeast since the Soviet withdrawal, about 500 Mujahideen have stepped up attacks on Khost but there is little coordination between rival groups and violent feuding has been reported.

Many local rebel commanders no longer fight the government for various reasons, including business deals with Kabul.

Kashmiris say they ready to die for freedom from India

By Malcolm Davidson
Reuters

SRINAGAR, India — "We are ready to die for Kashmir," Hameed said just before a volley of shots rang out across Srinagar's crowded old city.

Within seconds he and a dozen others ran from the city's largest mosque to join the battle — hurling stones and insults at what they call the Indian occupying forces.

Paramilitary police retaliated with bullets and tear gas, then laid siege to the Jama Masjid mosque still crowded with Friday worshippers.

Four hours later, the siege ended with 159 Kashmiri youths being driven away under heavy guard for interrogation.

At least two of those arrested in the Aug. 25 incident were secessionist gunmen, according to the government, but whether Hameed and his friends were among them was unclear.

The 29-year-old former government clerk is one of a few hundred young men who reject Muslim-dominated Kashmir's accession to predominantly Hindu India at independence in 1947 and have taken to the gun to fight for their homeland.

Hameed said he was a member of the largest militant group, the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front.

With five others, he says, he walked across the mountains 18 months ago for arms training from fellow militants in the part of Kashmir which has been controlled by Pakistan since 1949.

"They taught me bomb-making, shooting and rocket launching," he said, squatting with his companions in a corner of the Jama Masjid.

Since July last year, mountainous Jammu and Kashmir state in north India has been riven by violence as militants demand Kashmir becomes independent or part of Pakistan.

The government, vowing Kashmir is irrevocably part of India, has countered with ever tighter security measures and is now trying to curb press reporting of the militants' campaign.

More than 80 people have died and over 150 young Kashmiris have been imprisoned without trial since the campaign began.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir since independence from Britain and the region remains divided. Two thirds, including the fertile Kashmir valley, is under Indian control, the rest is ruled from Islamabad.

mabad.

Since slipping back across the "line of control" that divides the two Kashmiris after a month of training, Hameed claimed his seven-man group had launched seven or eight attacks. The last was a bomb blast at Sri Nagar's polo club in July.

"We are ready for a big war, but it is at an initial stage," he said. "It depends on the government of India. We are ready to die for Kashmir."

Hameed said his group was armed with one pistol, an AK-47 assault rifle, explosives and seven Chinese-made hand grenades.

In the beautiful Kashmir valley, a major casualty of the latest strife has been tourism, the mainstay of the economy. Arrivals are down 40 per cent this year.

The militants recognise the damage done by violence and the strike calls that frequently shut down Srinagar's shops and markets, but say that is the price of freedom.

"For some time Kashmir will suffer," Hameed said. "There must be sacrifices if we are to win. The people recognise that and every Kashmiri helps."

At first the bomb blasts, shootings and arson appeared designed to minimise casualties. In the last month the militants have directly targeted the ruling National Conference Party and its coalition ally, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I).

Kashmir's gunmen are often the well-educated unemployed.

Sitting across from Hameed in the mosque was Tahir, a 24-year-old gunman who said he had a master's degree in commerce. The vice-chairman of Hezbi-Islami Kashmir, codenamed Zahoor-Ul-Islam, said he had a science degree.

One result of the violence has been accelerated efforts to deal with the ills of Srinagar's old city, a warren of narrow streets and alleys where 500,000 people live crowded into dilapidated houses without modern sanitation. It is a hotbed of anti-Indian sentiment.

Some Kashmiris say their mountain valley is heading the same way as north India's Punjab state where Sikh guerrillas have killed thousands of people in pursuit of an independent homeland.

But Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah said there was no question of compromise with the gunmen.

"Security is not the question," he said. "It is the survival of the nation that matters. No sacrifice is wrong for the survival of the nation."

By Jackson Diehl

ASHKELON, Israel — Four years after Israel carried out a secret, emergency airlift of thousands of Ethiopian Jews, an eight-storey apartment building stands here in a desolate, trash-strewn expanse of sand, its gleaming white panels and lime-green roof as uncomfortable new and conspicuous in the neighbourhood as its residents, most of them black.

The 16 Ethiopian families living in this building say they consider themselves fortunate to have their spartan-but-modern apartments after two years of living in the tent-like "absorption centres" two blocks from here, where scores of their countrymen are still concentrated.

But with their incomes as low as \$350 a month, and their lives packed into one sore thumb of concrete in a working-class neighbourhood, Israel hardly seems like the promised land they expected.

"Some people here, if they see you walking in the street, they'll insult you," said a 12-year-old girl who loitered with her friends in the building's concrete entryway one recent morning.

"What we would like here," added a young man, "is to be

Israelis and Ethiopians, and not just Ethiopians."

The incipient "ghettoisation" of Ashkelon's blacks is symptomatic of how a country that cheered the arrival of a new immigrant group in the mid-1980s has since fallen short in the more complicated task of integrating it into a close-knit society.

Long after the fanfare ended, the majority of Israel's 17,000 Ethiopian Jews still live in substandard housing and relatively isolated communities, and their leaders are angrily charging that the nation has forgotten them.

"The problem with this country is that it loves immigrants, but doesn't like them very much," said Rahamin Elazar, the chief of Amharic-language Israeli radio broadcasts for Ethiopians and a prominent community leader.

"They call people to come here and are happy when we come," he said, "but they have no facilities for us. So we fall into the hands of a very complicated bureaucracy that doesn't do its work properly."

The Ethiopians' experience has become relevant in recent months as Israel has begun to expect the prospective arrival of another large wave of immigrants, this time from the Soviet Union. As government and Jewish agency officials predict that 50,000 or

more Soviet Jews could reach Israel in the next several years, a wave of enthusiasm for new arrivals is once again rising.

Yet immigration specialists are warning that Israel is again unprepared to do more than give its new immigrants a rousing welcome before dropping them into the netherworld of temporary housing, meager subsidies and political neglect the Ethiopians have endured.

"You have a lesson here," said Meir Edelstein, director of the Mevasseret Zion absorption centre for immigrants, outside Jerusalem. "And the lesson is that if you have money and resources, you can do a lot of things. But if the commitment is limited, even if you know what to do, you can't carry through because there aren't enough means."

In the 1970s, Russian immigrants who came to Israel were integrated with relatively few problems. Yet a decade later, experts say, Israel has less to offer the Soviet Jews, 85 per cent of whom have higher educations.

Ironically, these more skilled arrivals present a challenge to the absorption process that the Ethiopians do not, because it is difficult to match the Soviet Jews with jobs in their fields. Already, some absorption centres and even

hotels in Israel are crowded with Russian Jews who say they can find neither housing nor work.

In the case of the Ethiopians, an impoverished and mostly uneducated group that practised a unique form of Judaism, money was not the only problem. Enthusiastically welcomed by Israelis when they arrived in an airlift in 1984 and 1985, the immigrants have since undergone often bruising encounters with religious and secular institutions unwilling to make concessions to their unusual customs, background or skin colour.

Almost all of the Ethiopian Jews come from that country's northwestern province of Gondar, where they lived in small villages and worked as farmers or craftsmen. The majority were illiterate when they arrived in Israel and unfamiliar with modern technology.

Moreover, many had wrenching separations of families. Some 15,000 Jews — among them the parents of 1,500 children now effectively orphaned in Israel — were left behind in Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian Jews, known as Falashas, are regarded by many religious authorities as one of the traditional 10 lost tribes of ancient Israel — Washington Post.

Arab News — Filling the gap

By Francis McKenna

JEDDAH — Khaled Al Maena, editor in chief of Arab News, disagrees with the late American columnist Rebecca West who once scathingly described journalism as "an ability to meet the challenge of filling the space."

As the editorial chief of Saudi Arabia's foremost English language newspaper, Al Maena holds forthright views on what makes his newspaper tick and the role it must play in today's kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

"The need for the Arab News arose during the boom years of the early '70s," recalls Al Maena. "Publishers Hisham and Mohammad Ali Hafiz, in a bold move, decided that there should be an English language newspaper for the increasing influx of expatriates. The time was right."

The Hafiz brothers reasoned correctly that many of the incoming expats knew little of the kingdom and still wanted to get the latest news from their own countries.

Arab News was originally conceived as fulfilling a dual function — informing and educating foreigners about the kingdom while

keeping them updated on the latest events "back home."

Since those heady days at the start of a continuing publishing adventure, Arab News has achieved an international reputation and a daily circulation figure of 43,101 copies, not only in Saudi Arabia but also throughout the entire Arab World.

Recalling the early pioneering days, Al Maena looks wistful. "Initially there was a very small staff and the whole operation was run out of just one or two rooms. But from this small start a new tradition and a new family of journalists and publishers emerged."

Al Maena agrees that times, and newspapers, change. "Originally a paper for expatriates, over the years Arab News has become a paper for anyone who reads English. We cater for no particular age group — anyone from a 12-year-old to a company executive can pick the paper up and feel comfortable."

What is the secret behind such broad appeal? "We've got the right mix," says the news chief. "We have local and international news, fashion, sports, features,

and we're not afraid to tackle big stories and thorny issues."

A major benefit of coming from the Saudi Research & Marketing Co. stable is that close liaison with the group's other publications enhances editorial depth. "All the SRMC papers and magazines are different but we can all help contribute to each other's success," says Al Maena.

Al Maena launches into the major stories covered by his paper in recent years — the intifada and the plight of the Palestinians; the famine which scourged Ethiopia and Sudan in 1984-85; the current plight of Muslims in Bulgaria, Seoul's Olympic Games in 1988.

While conceding that big stories keep the adrenaline flowing in the newsroom, Al Maena also believes that a major ongoing task of any self-respecting newspaper is to educate and enlighten. "We are focusing increasingly on environmental issues," he says earnestly. "We mirror the growing concern of our readers and always remember that the world is a global village. We are at the front when it comes to calling for environmental protection."

Noting the high number of Saudi female readers his paper attracts, Al Maena believes that a refusal to back away from tough social issues like dowries and polygamy, divorce and education, has earned widespread female respect and loyalty.

He merely shrugs and says, "It's good to see that. We recognise the major and increasing role, Saudi women are playing in society."

The editor in chief also emphasises that many Saudis have now returned home after education abroad, in the United States and Europe. The vast majority have returned fluent in English and reading Arab News helps them maintain their grasp of the language while also keeping them updated.

Al Maena is confident that this is a positive development. "The more that different peoples know about each other the better the chances for global peace," he says.

"It's not enough for Al Maena that Arab News was the first Saudi paper to be published simultaneously via satellite in Jeddah, Riyadh and Dhahran.

Murder, exile, persecution confront Colombian journalists

By Javier Baena
The Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia — Colombian journalists who write and speak against the country's cocaine lords run the risk of persecution, forced exile and even murder, as Sept. 2 bombing outside the El Espectador newspaper showed.

Guillermo Cano, the former editor of the Bogota-based El Espectador, heads the list of Colombia's journalistic martyrs in the fight against drug traffickers.

He was assassinated Dec. 17, 1986, when he was leaving the El Espectador building. Authorities charged Pablo Escobar, the most powerful chief of the Medellin cocaine cartel, with ordering and

planning the journalist's murder. Escobar, now in hiding, leads the list of 12 so-called "extraditables" wanted on drug-related charges in the United States.

Cano wrote fiercely and consistently against the drug traffickers, and the paper has continued the campaign since his killing.

In September 1986 assassins killed veteran anti-drug newsmen

Raul Echavarria of the newspaper Occidente in Cali, another big cocaine-producing city. No one has yet been convicted of the crime.

Juan Gomez, now the mayor of Medellin, the world's no.1 cocaine centre, fought off a kidnapping attempt in 1987 when he was the editor of the El Colombiano newspaper there. The "extraditables" claimed responsibility.

Gomez now is the lone leading Colombian political figure who proposes negotiating with the drug cartels, a policy adamantly opposed by President Virgilio Barco and the defence minister, Gen. Oscar Botero.

Luis Carlos Galan, a leading candidate for president in Colombian elections next May, also

campaigning on an anti-drug cartel platform. Drug gangs murdered him Aug. 16.

Journalist Andres Pastrana left the directorship of an independently produced Colombian network TV news programme to run for mayor of Bogota, the capital. The "extraditables" kidnapped him in January 1989, but the police rescued him a week later, and he won the election.

Writing against violence and petrification

By Vivi Edstrom

SWEDEN is little more than an insignificant outpost when it comes to literature for adults. Children's literature, on the other hand, is a major export. Most exported of all is Astrid Lindgren. Not even Selma Lagerlöf, has been translated into so many languages.

Astrid Lindgren was born in 1907 on a farm in the province of Småland in southern Sweden but she has spent all her adult life in Stockholm, a factor which has been of great importance for her writing. She went to Stockholm as a young girl, found herself a job in an office, worked hard and lived frugally until she finally found her feet. From 1946 until 1970 she worked for Rabén & Sjögren, Sweden's biggest children's publisher, who also publishes her books. As a result she came to exercise considerable influence generally on children's publishing in Sweden. Astrid Lindgren's independence has made her a major innovator and her books have inspired artists in many fields, and have been turned into cartoons, plays and musicals and have given rise to a large number of films and television productions. Lindgren has read her own books on radio and television and increased her popularity still further. She has also written plays and, together with various artists, has published picture books on subjects such as children in other countries.

Astrid Lindgren's writing is deeply rooted in the part of Sweden in which she grew up, namely rural Småland. The country girl's empathy with flowers and crops, her familiarity with farming and small town life, with folk tales and local sayings are present in all her works. Nevertheless, I feel that Swedish critics and the mass media place too great an emphasis on the provincial aspects of her writing, for she

is an artist on a genuinely universal scale, not least because she belongs to a truly literary tradition. At her best, she creates this tradition anew with all the authority of the innovator.

Pippi Longstocking

Astrid Lindgren made her literary debut at the age of 37 with *The Confidences of Britt-Mari* in 1944. This story won her second prize in Rabén & Sjögren's competition to find the best story for girls of the year. The prize was important to her as an opening to a literary career and she herself has said that no subsequent honour has thrilled her as much as that first one. It was wartime and much importance was attached to the upholding of moral values. The publisher's announcement of the competition stipulated that the entries should promote "love of the home and of the family, as well as sobriety and responsibility in relation to the opposite sex."

The story about Britt-Mari illustrates how easily Astrid Lindgren slipped into the girls' story genre which she was to develop in the 1940s and 1950s in the trilogy of stories about Kati, tourist books of a kind, which started with *Kati in America* (1950).

The Confidences of Britt-Mari is written in the form of a diary and the narrator, quite properly, has a nice family with well-developed relationships between its various members. This exemplary girls' book offered everything that the publisher and contemporary society could want in the way of social adjustment. But there is no evidence here of the deeply bought experiences of the author's own youth: the departure from her childhood home, the frugal and lonely existence as an office worker in Stockholm. However, Lindgren is entirely herself in that little style, in passages which ripple with irony and which in places render *The Confidences of Britt-Mari* something of

a parody of the conventional girls' story. (Parody is also an effective force in the Pippi Longstocking trilogy, to say nothing of the Emil books and the Karlsson-on-the-Roof series.)

Great expectancy surrounded the jury's announcement of the winner's name. Could it even be that the author was an established writer? But no, she turned out to be an unknown housewife. The judges were not to know that this housewife had dynamite in her pocket. "For in the beginning was the original Pippi..."

Astrid Lindgren had presented her daughter Karin with the story of the wild little girl as early as 1941 — indeed it was the daughter who hit upon the name. The Pippi Longstocking who appeared in print in 1945 and who revolutionised our children's literature was a more respectable version of the original naughty Pippi who wasn't in the least bit nice. However, she retained enough of her wild sovereignty to challenge the world around her and to realise children's innermost dreams. We can see the results of her influence in many of the 40-year-olds of today.

Pippi represents the ordinary child, but she is at the same time a figure with certain magical gifts — in fact someone has said that she is really a witch. As such she is a child's projection of everything that is desirable, every well-behaved Annika or Tommy's means of letting off steam. Later, in the collection of fairy-tales entitled *Nils Karlsson-Pytsling* (also called *Simon Small*, 1949) Lindgren gives us several further variations of the meeting between a child and a mythical figure which is both real and highly imaginative. In the story *In the Land of Twilight*, for example, Mr. Liljonkvast floats out over Stockholm with the crippled boy and into "The Land that Isn't," which anticipates the wonderland in *Mio, my Son*. The same motif later takes on a grotesque note in

the meeting between Eric and Karlsson-on-the-Roof, the little propeller-driven fat man bulging with all our vices and more real than any ordinary bloodless mortal.

In the still prim and moralising children's literature of the 1940s Astrid Lindgren's breakthrough meant that children got a literature on their own terms. This is Lindgren's fundamental achievement. Her characters certainly have their counterparts in older literature, but Astrid Lindgren's figures are expressive and typological in quite another way. Their manner of speech differs from the usual. Traditionally, the language of children's literature so closely monitored by the critics had to be both current in school and acceptable to "cultured" families. In Astrid Lindgren's books children speak out in a new way. For the Pippi stories Lindgren takes her linguistic material from the revue and from the satirical press; she experiments with new compound forms where she is both rustic and sarcastic and creates new words.

If you argue that Pippi Longstocking is the Swedish children's book of the century, that it put spunk into little girls in a way no other story has ever done, that it is in many ways liberating and helps to promote creativity on several levels, then you can also argue, with the truth of paradox, that Pippi is not especially a book for children. It is quite simply a book, a fairly subversive one, which aims the arrow of irony at convention, at rules and at oppression in general. It has been translated into more than 50 languages.

From idyll to crime

Astrid Lindgren's creativity in the 1940s was like a dammed-up river which bursts its banks and sweeps forward along many parallel channels. Two more books

about Pippi appeared, alternating with other types of stories, for example the trilogy about the Bullerby children (written for younger children), and the three Bill Bergson detective stories. The different genres are equally distinct.

In the Bullerby books Astrid Lindgren creates the quintessence of the idyllic and the supremacy of the world of childhood. They are written straight from the child's perspective, with emphasis on children's games and fantasies. Events are effective because of their very lack of drama. A loose tooth, a schoolmistress who oversleeps, a spring moment playing in the ditch — everything becomes important and engrossing in the idyllic realism of the microworld.

The same method of creating drama from everyday incidents was used later by Lindgren in the little story of Lotta of Troublemaker Street (1961), which Ingmar Bergman has expressed an interest in filming. The story has the same explosive force as a Greek tragedy, with grand gestures and a powerful enactment of emotions, yet at the same time there is room for gentleness and sensitivity. Lotta, five years of age, gets out of bed on the wrong side, has an argument with her mother, snips her jumper into pieces in a blind fury, decides to leave home and goes to live among the junk in Mrs. Berg's attic. That is, until father arrives, just as the attic is getting scary with the approach of night, and politely asks her to move back home. Why do we find this denouement so touching? The agony of separation and the sweetness of reconciliation: these are the most fundamental elements of dependence and love which are revealed here. At the same time the book is something of a pedagogic guidance manual for adults, teaching us that it is possible to cope with each other's aggressions with care and respect.



Pippi Longstocking and her friends

The same caring simplicity is to be found in Samuel August from Sevedstorp and Hanna in Hult (1975). Astrid Lindgren's love story about her parents, an account of two people's sometimes difficult yet nevertheless undeviating path to harmony, their endeavours and toil and their happy marriage. The author builds her story upon a series of letters, but these are actually little in evidence. It is rather her own voice which carries the story. The father becomes the central figure, and his importance for his daughter as a conveyor of tradition and as a storyteller is clearly very great. Astrid Lindgren was writing for adults in the tale of Samuel and Hanna, something which many seem to regard as prerequisite for entry into the ranks of the "real author". Yet

this account, with its narrative and psychological qualities, has gone virtually unnoticed.

Lindgren's ability to draw the remarkable out of the commonplace is one side of her literary talent. However, she is also attracted by the melodramatic, the fantastic and the wild. The books which really earned her nationwide recognition were the action-packed Bill Bergson detective stories, which were read on the radio and achieved instant, overwhelming popularity. Like the Bullerby books, these are built upon the bonds forged by children at play. But here the world is no longer entirely so secure. Crime, both real and imaginary, is lurking in the small-town summer idyll. One of the books goes so far as to break with the convention which says that

murder shall not be depicted in detective stories for children. The Bill Bergson trilogy is most significant for Lindgren's artistic development. She started to try out more adventurous structures and became increasingly accomplished at the single complex plot which sustains logic and suspense throughout. She gradually left the pure detective story genre but exploited its potential for entanglements in several of her later books, above all in *Rasmus and the Vagabond*, *Mio, my Son* and *The Brothers Lionheart*. All of these feature elements of the hunt for the villain, pursuit and fear. — *The Swedish Institute*

Next week an article about the writings of Swedish author Selma Lagerlöf will appear in the Jordan Times.



Vintage 1989 looks like a corker for French wines

By Nelson Graves

PARIS — Waiting up from French vineyards are the telltale signs of good news for wine lovers: 1989 could rank among the best vintages since World War II. Despite frost, hail and drought in some places, long spells of sunshine have turned this year's grapes in Bordeaux, Burgundy and Champagne a rich deep hue and wine producers are already tasting success.

Full-bodied, supple, young and fruity — these are just some of the fulsome adjectives rolling off their tongues for this year's harvest.

"The quality of the 1989 vintage looks to be very, very good," said Pierre Rouquet of the French national wine office (Onivins). If all goes well at harvest time, 1989 would top an unusually fine decade in which five out of 10 wine years have been ranked excellent.

"Although opinions differ and quality has varied by region, Onivins considers only 12 vintages since World War II to have been outstanding. "The seasonal temperatures and the amount of sunshine have been very favourable for the vines. 1989 will definitely be a great year, like '47, '59 and '76," said Marcel Martin, chairman of the winegrowers' guild of the

Pays de Loire.

"The grape is perfectly golden. The wine will be supple, clear and fruity," he added.

The quality, however, is not expected to be matched by abundant quantity and prices are likely to rise.

The agriculture ministry estimates this year's output — 60 million litres — will barely exceed last year's meagre harvest and trail average production by almost 10 million bottles.

That, according to Onivins price analyst Thierry Prevot, means stocks will remain depleted and wholesale prices could increase by up to 10 per cent over the next year.

The heat which has promised this year's success has withered more fragile French crops such as corn and sunflowers, but grapes have suffered only in the very driest areas like Corsica.

"The vines don't suffer from lack of water," said Eric Fabre of Chateau Lafite Rothschild in the Bordeaux area. Sunshine helps grapes ripen, impedes some diseases and can contribute to a better balanced wine.

Bordeaux vineyards received 20 per cent more sunshine between May and July than during an entire average year, according to the national weather service. Fabre said his Chateau's grapes changed colour to a ripe dark red

August 4, the earliest since 1952 that its vines have crossed that crucial threshold. "This year the grapes are precocious and have a complete maturity," he said.

That means Lafite will start the painstaking harvest two weeks before last year. Grape-pickers in Muscadet began plucking ripe grapes August 25, three weeks earlier than usual.

An early harvest means the grape juice is likely to be safely fermenting in vats before the arrival of autumn rain and cold.

Some areas have suffered damage. Philippe le Thierant, spokesman for the Champagne Wine Association, said late spring frosts destroyed about 10 per cent of the region's grapes. However, this was far less than feared earlier in the year.

At Chateau D'Yquem, which produces the santeur white wine loved by U.S. President Thomas Jefferson 200 years ago, half the vines were wiped out in a brief but lethal hail storm in July. Chateau owner count Alexandre de Lur Saluces said any chance that the 102 hectare estate would produce its usual 75,000 bottles had been wiped out by those "mean 10 minutes."

"If we get 40,000 bottles, I'll be delighted," the count said. But he still had cause for optimism: "If we do our work well, we should have a very good vintage."

A kinship between today's sheriff of Nottingham and Robin Hood

By Jeffrey Heller
Reuters

NOTTINGHAM — The Sheriff of Nottingham speaks in a melodic West Indian voice nowadays and has only nice things to say about his old foe Robin Hood, an outlaw still bringing in the cash.

"He was a socialist because he always thought about the poor people and he used to rob the rich for the poor," the sheriff said with admiration in his office overlooking Nottingham's main square.

Strange words from the legendary outlaw's arch-enemy?

Not really, considering Jamaican-born Sheriff Tony Robinson, the first black to hold the 1,000-year-old office, is a Labour Party councillor and veteran trade union activist.

Instead of chasing bands of merry men in Sherwood forest, the retired bus driver and father of seven is in charge of attracting more tourists to this central English city where the Robin Hood legend is big business.

"I'm not a gun-slinger," he quips when asked how he likes being addressed as sheriff, a title he says many people associate with the American Wild West.

"The sheriff in the old days used to be a bad man. But I have to show that I am a peaceful sheriff and a good sheriff."

Robinson, 68, joins an exclusive club. Most towns in Britain have abolished the honorary office and only 16 sheriffs remain in the country.

Since Robinson's appointment to the one-year post by the city council four months ago, he has gone on a promotional tour of West Germany and plans to visit the United States and Canada.

Last year some 600,000 tourists visited Nottingham whose attractions include the Robin Hood Centre, which gives a history of the city and its most famous outlaw, and Major Oak, where he hid from the sheriff.

"I want to see if I can bring in three times, four times that amount into the city," Robinson said.

When he is not out promoting this town of 250,000, the sheriff visits homes for the elderly, meets schoolchildren and hands out bouquets to couples celebrating their golden or diamond jubilees.

Historians have often questioned whether Robin Hood, Friar Tuck, Little John and Maid Marian ever existed and only a year ago even Nottingham council shot an arrow at the legend that had been enriching its coffers.

It issued a leaflet claiming that Robin Hood, far from being a romantic rogue, was just a plain medieval forester.

But the leaflet has been replaced.

The new one, under the headline "The legend of Robin Hood," states matter-of-factly that "Robin Hood lived in Sherwood Forest in the Middle Ages and was the world's most famous outlaw."

Robinson says he is a believer. "Men just don't get up and write stories like that... there must be some link (to fact)," he says.

Robin Hood is the bowman hero of a series of English ballads, some of which date from at least the 14th century. Many of the tales portray the outlaw leader and his band robbing and killing representatives of authority.

The sheriff of Nottingham — the town has had such a law officer since the 10th century — was his sworn enemy, representing the king and levying crown taxes.

The office is now ceremonial and responsibility for the local judiciary rests with an official called the high sheriff.

Historians note that Robin Hood ballads were the poetic expression of popular aspirations in northern England at a time of agrarian discontent.

Hollywood took a more romantic perspective.

It cast screen heroes Douglas Fairbanks and Errol Flynn as the feather-capped outlaw in tight-fitting Disney outfits for a cartoon fox. Robin Hood also became a popular television serial, starring Richard Greene in the 1950s.

In 1975 Sean Connery gave the role a new twist, playing a middle-aged Robin Hood weary from the crusades, in the film "Robin and Marian."

For Robinson the role of sheriff, replete with ceremonial chains, maces and robes, brings great personal satisfaction.

When he arrived in Nottingham 29 years ago, he said, blacks faced, some of the worst discrimination in Britain.

"Nottingham was one of the most racist towns," Robinson said. "When black people used to come, they had difficulty with housing, jobs (and) they were offered the worst kind of everything."

Living in a one-room flat, he found a larger home, only to have his neighbour erect a wall between the houses when he saw a black man move in.

Wearing his gold chain of office, Robinson said: "Discrimination won't die out completely, but we've come a long way."



A cemetery for pets

By Philippe Chevalier

PARIS — To the north of Paris, near the River Seine in Asnieres, lies an area of greenery. It is the dog cemetery, a charming and unusual place increasingly visited by foreign tourists from Japan and Germany, England and Italy.

In addition to dogs, there are cats and many other pets whose owners wanted to give them a real grave. These include monkeys, two horses, a gazelle, a koala bear and even a snake and a lioness.

This necropolis on a reduced scale will soon be a century old. At that time, this acre, emerging from the river and sheltered by chestnut trees and willows, was called "Le des Ravageurs". Van Gogh placed his easel there in order to paint "Le Restaurant de la Sirene" and "Le Pont d'Asnieres". In "Les Mysteres de Paris", the 19th century writer Eugene Sue made it a hangout for river pirates. The "ravageurs", after whom the area was named, were, in fact, rag-and-bone-men who collected scrap metal from the river. In the surrounding area, Parisians and dwellers of the suburbs went boating in the fine season.

Two animal-lovers, a Paris lawyer, Georges Harmois, and a former actress from the Comedie Francaise who had become a feminist militant and a journalist, Marguerite Durand, created this cemetery opened in 1889. They had succeeded in winning politicians over to their cause, as well

as writers and artists such as Edmond Rostand, Sully Prudhomme, Cleo de Merode and Henri Rochefort.

It is a peaceful and poetic place where one can hear the ripples of the Seine lapping the banks, birds singing among the leaves and the dull murmur of the city.

The monument which greets the visitor in the central path, is dedicated to Barry. An inscription engraved in the granite recalls that this Saint-Bernard saved the lives of 40 people and was killed by the 41st. This rescue dog from the famous monastery in the Alps had indeed saved 40 mountaineers in distress in the course of its career when, at the beginning of the century, it discovered an injured man caught in the ice. The man took fright at the sight of the dog and struck it with his ice-axe. Barry returned to die in the monastery and the monks followed the trail of blood in the snow and managed to find the injured man who was saved.

Another famous dog is buried there and its grave is one with the most flowers in the cemetery. It is Rin-Tin-Tin, a superb German shepherd, the hero of a television serial in the 50s.

Bent over a tomb barely larger than two handkerchiefs, an old lady waters a clump of geraniums which have just been planted in front of a marble plaque: "To my dearly beloved Zora". Further on, a young couple takes a stretch of pathway leading up to the grave of Emma "faithful companion of our days."

The number of animals to have

been buried in Asnieres, since the creation of the cemetery, is estimated at over fifty thousand. There are 2,700 graves many of which are carefully looked after and covered with petunias, French marigolds and daisies.

Hundreds of epitaphs tell the love story between a man, a woman and an animal. Some are banal: "You alone never deceived me." "To our Rita, so gentle. With regrets." Some are passionate: "My Zora. Thank you for having existed." "Disappointed by humans, but never by my dog". The musician Camille Saint-Saens and, more recently, Sacha Guity had their dogs buried in Asnieres, as did Queen Elisabeth of Rumania. "Drac — 1941-1954 — a precious friend in exile", one reads on its tomb. The average price for the burial of a "departed loved one" is around 5,000 francs to which 600 to 700 francs have to be added every year to renew the lease.

Two years ago, the cemetery almost disappeared. The Seine was inexorably nibbling away at the wall which protects it from the water and the cost of the rebuilding work, five million francs, was considered as too expensive. Public opinion was moved and an association of friends of the cemetery was formed with the effect that the official authorities listed the burial place, declaring it of public utility and emphasising its "picturesque, artistic, historical and legendary" character.

The dog cemetery was saved! — *French Features*

Focus on People

Taking advice and being competitive

By Mariam M. Shabin

This week Khaled Nabghali, chairman of the Jordanian-Scandinavian Business Club (Scan Club), talks to Focus on People about his views on Jordanian-Scandinavian relations ahead of visit to Jordan by the King and Queen of Sweden later this month.

Trade relations between the 'Nordic countries', or the countries we know today as 'Scandinavia', and 'Arabia' have existed since the time of the Vikings, the Nordic sea-faring people, in the tenth century A.D. Hundreds of thousands of Arabic coins found in Sweden in this century have attested to that.

Today, with the active encouragement of Lars Lonnback, Sweden's ambassador to Jordan, and Jordanian businessmen who are agents for, or otherwise deal with Scandinavian companies, a Jordanian-Scandinavian business club was created. Khaled Nabghali, the elected chairman of the club believes that Jordan could benefit greatly from Scandinavian expertise in a variety of areas.

As many other young Jordanians who were educated in non-Arab countries, Nabghali hopes that the technical know-how and managerial expertise which he learned while abroad could somehow be applied in Jordan.

"Jordan is a developing country and we need to listen to others who have travelled this road of technical development before us. Buying this or that product from abroad will not make us a developed country. We need to know how to use the products, how they can be applied to our specific needs, how they were made, and how to repair them. In my capacity as the chairman of the Scan Club I see that the Scandinavian countries dealing with Jordan are exerting a great deal of efforts in trying to teach Jordanians about how to help themselves more efficiently," Nabghali says.

While Nabghali works with Scandinavians, many other Jordanians have strong commercial and trade ties with other European, Asian and American countries. All seem anxious to further ties and create an atmosphere where Jordanians could actively benefit from expertise to which they may not have been previously exposed.

Nabghali, who went to university in Britain and the United States, has an academic and professional background in trade and commerce. He believes that Jordanians are being given "a free educational opportunity at every trade conference and business seminar held in Jordan about ways to run our industries and businesses more efficiently and effectively."

At a time when many Jordanians are keen on developing Jordan's export capabilities, Nabghali says the upcoming Scan Club-sponsored management seminar in Amman, co-sponsored by the Swedish Trade Council, "will be an excellent opportunity for members of the Jordanian business community and those involved in Jordanian industries to benefit from the Swedish experience and expertise."

Certain Scandinavian countries have already done a great deal to promote local industries. One very successful example of a Scandinavian project in Jordan is the Danish Dairy Company, according to Nabghali.

He points out that "if Jordan wants to enter the export markets successfully then Jordanians must take the advice of those who are successful exporters. While many Jordanian companies are benefiting from well-trained Jordanian managers and quality controllers, there are those who are not. This is a time when we need to produce 'competitive' products so that the label 'Made in Jordan' will stand for desirable quality that will bring in repeat orders. "I dread seeing some Jordanian businesses invest in 'fast material' and they end up losing quality and durability and then they start shouting because they can't find people to buy their products," he says.

Nabghali is optimistic that the visit of the Swedish king and queen will boost Jordanian-Swedish relations on all levels. He says: "If all goes well Jordanians will benefit to the maximum from the management seminar and the suggestions of the Swedish delegations which will discuss health care and the environment with Jordanian officials."



Ahoi sailors!

By Sylvaine Luckx

IT WAS 4 p.m. in Lorient on 22nd April 1989. The fever of last minute preparations reigned on the floating landing stages. Philippe Poupon was checking his navigation instruments, unconcerned by the onlookers. Eric Tabarly was rolling up the sheet of a sail and inspecting the rigging. They were all there: the Peyron brothers (Loick and Bruno), Florence Arthaud, Pierre Follant and Mike Birch. These big names in sailing all knew each other. Meeting in races and harbours, they had known the same boats and the same skippers.

Among them was Jean Dumonet, aged 55, together with his fellow crewman, his son Jean-Christophe, who would be twenty during the Transatlantic Race.

Jean Dumonet is indeed the lucky owner of the very Parisian restaurant "Josephine-Chef Dumonet", in rue du Cherche-Midi, where stars, long-standing friends and ocean-going sailors rub shoulders. He was the only non-professional in this race. While the other competitors took their survival rations on board, he brought along some "Chateau Cos d'Estoumel 1982", an excellent Claret. Even if it was to test the ageing process of wines at sea, his behaviour still appeared a little surprising in a Transatlantic Race. His crew consisted of his wife Albertine, called "Pet", and a bunch of friends.

His boat was the "Cidelem", a 15.20 metre catamaran, designed by Gregoire Dito and Patrick Dubois. It was, indeed a fine beast, but some what out of place next to the thoroughbreds "Fujicolor" (skippered by Mike Birch) or "Groupe Pierre ler de Serbie" (Florence Arthaud). The "Cidelem" appeared strong rather than really aristocratic. Jean Dumonet stroked his beard. His eyes sparkled. He knew his chances of winning were very slender, but he believed in them, like all those from the Cidelem group who had come to see him off. One last smile, a bit of bravado, and they were off!

A page was turned. "Charal" (Bruno Peyron) was first back to Lorient. Jean Dumonet was not among the leaders, far from it. But the race and had been tough. The two contenders in the outward journey, Eric Tabarly ("Bottin Entreprense"), and Jean Maurel ("Elif-Aquitaine III") capsized. Florence Arthaud broke up at Saint-Barthelemy. Jean Dumonet stayed the course, but as he was delayed by problems with his mainsail and a crack in his hull (taking 600 litres of seawater), he continued at his own rhythm.

Olivier de Kersauson recently completed his trip around the world, thereby shutting up his critics who had rather quickly dismissed this media-minded sailor. It is true that Jean Dumonet's performance in the Transatlantic Race was not Olivier de Kersauson's trip around the world. But perhaps it is the same approach and the same challenge to struggle with a boat racing at 20 knots in the North Atlantic, as to fight with the huge waves at the 40th parallel. Well done, Captain! — French features



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Hoping for a better future

This is the second of a two-part article By Nur Sati

AMMAN — A pilot project to deal with the problem of street children and get them "off the street" was designed by Dr. Sabri Rbeihat, head of the social research wing of the Public Security Department. The action plan is seen as a "theoretical" model to test a system to rehabilitate street children and reshape their potential to play their rightful role in the society.

One of the major components of the project is increased coordination among the various departments and agencies linked in one way or another to efforts to address the problem of street children. The departments and agencies operate either within the ministries of social development and education in cooperation with the Public Security Department, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund.

A committee made up of representatives of these departments and organisations will supervise and run the project and assess and modify its operations when necessary. One of

the organisations will be named host of the project, Rbeihat told the Jordan Times in an interview.

Rbeihat concedes that there cannot be any action plan that deals with the problem on a general basis since the background varies from every child on the street to another. However, one of the fundamentals on which Rbeihat based his theory for the pilot project is an assumption that "if an individual belongs to a weak group — for example weak attachment to parents — then he or she will learn to depend more on himself or herself and develop a set of rules that will only meet his or her interests regardless of the interests of the society or community."

"This results in their life being characterised by little consideration for parental links and for relations with school and classmates and no long-term conventional goals," he explains. "This will lessen their involvement in conventional activities and in turn will lead to total disregard for the law and respect for authority."

There are several questions

that need to be answered, Rbeihat said. Some of them are: Can there be a definite plan of action to reduce the number of children appearing in streets? If so, how many? Could it be a significant proportion? How prevention efforts could be applied? How could potential street children be identified or preempted? What sort of prevention programmes might be helpful?

Keeping these questions in mind, Rbeihat said, he was able to create forms of intervention. The strategy includes recreating some form of family links with the children and recommitting them to long-term goals through school and training, involving them in constructive activities and cultivating in them respect for the morality of law and authority.

One of the basic essentials to tackle the problem is as much information one could get so that each case could be addressed individually. But, according to Rbeihat, in many cases accurate information is hard to come by and it makes the problem a little more difficult. "We have to know the problem and its roots in depth," he said. According to Rbeihat, the

number of street children is increasing in Jordan and has become the most serious social problems in the Kingdom. "Society has done little to intervene since we are unable to absorb and accept the idea of an institution to address the problem and it will take time for us to do so," Rbeihat observed. "On the contrary, we encourage the phenomenon rather than helping to eliminate it," he said and criticised people's habit of giving money to children at traffic junctions and streets instead of informing the authorities who could really help tackle the root problem.

"Childhood is a slot in the social structure and a phase in the lifecycle," said the official. "Children should not be exposed to or confronted with problems of adult life; they are more innocent and less guilty of criminal intentions."

Children require protection, discipline, direction and training for they "might have been victimised by circumstances," he said. Therefore, a psychoanalysis of each individual child is necessary before drawing up specific approaches to his or her problems, he added.

By Chris Peterson
Reuter

HONG KONG — Vietnamese boat people, once given help by a reluctant Hong Kong to resettle in third countries, have now become one of the British colony's biggest headaches with little prospect of an end in sight.

Sporadic violence among the 55,301 boat people jammed into camps and detention centres and a major outbreak of cholera have left the Hong Kong government's ability to deal with the situation stretched to the limit.

A riot at a camp in Sek Kong last week, northern Hong Kong, saw one man killed, a number injured and scores of handmade weapons unearthed.

There have now been five serious outbreaks of violence in Hong Kong's camps this year and a number of smaller scuffles between rival gangs and factions.

"This cycle is inevitable," said a refugee worker.

"There's an initial period after they arrive here when they are compliant and then the sheer boredom, coupled with the knowledge that their only option is to go back to Vietnam, produces a highly-charged atmosphere," he said.

International aid agencies and the government, often at odds over treatment of boat people, agree on one thing at least — the

For many boat people, pains of exile continue

camps are vastly overcrowded and this year's influx of more than 30,000 has only added to the misery.

Until the beginning of the year, various international agencies and voluntary bodies were able to offer a variety of activities to keep the boat people occupied, including sports, language classes and workshops.

But a chronic shortage of space meant many activities had to be curtailed as the authorities worked frantically to fit new arrivals in.

A visit to a camp leaves a lasting impression. In Shau Shui Po, a former British army depot in the heart of the densely-populated Kowloon peninsula, families live in stacked bunks, their meagre possessions piled in a corner.

There is no privacy. Young men gather listlessly in groups, and naked children run around.

Converted pigsties

On Tai a Chau, in the remote

Chau inmates. Superintendent Les Bird, who is in charge of the police guard at Tai a Chau, said: "There is an atmosphere of violence. The gangs of men in their mid to late 20's are congregating in groups. They roam about or sit in groups on the hills and look at you. You don't know what they are thinking."

The 50 or so police on Tai a Chau had to flee for their lives last Sunday as hundreds of Vietnamese went on the rampage. The police were absent from the island for nearly 24 hours and there was widespread vandalism, robbery and assault, and five reported rapes.

Police finally regained control with an air and sea military style assault which met no resistance. Bird said that violence appeared to have been coordinated by someone with military experience.

"They huddle together and flatly refuse to work. They act differently from the rest. They are uncooperative and unwilling to help others or themselves," Bird said.

Governor Sir David Wilson, speaking on his return from holiday in Britain, said the government was working on legislation to give more power to camp guards.

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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

World Bank spokesman explains new credit plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The World Bank plans grants from a new \$100 million package to help some of the world's poorest countries pay off loans to commercial banks, a spokesman said Tuesday.

It is expected that the governments will be able to buy back some of these commercial bank loans for small amounts. Bolivia, which may be a candidate, has bought back some for as little as 10 or 11 cents on the dollar.

"I don't think there'll be much criticism if we can get discounts like that," said World Bank spokesman William Brannigan.

He suggested that the amount owed by any one country to any one bank would be small, and the bank would be glad to get it off the books.

Other possible candidates are Bangladesh and Nepal in Asia, and some southern African nations. Those countries that are up to date on repayment of loans to the World Bank itself and have set up new economic programmes satisfactory to it or the International Monetary Fund are expected to be eligible for the grants.

Big debtors like Brazil, Argentina and Mexico would not qualify.

Brannigan said the plan has been approved by the board of executive directors, 22 representatives chosen by the 151 governments. But he said approval is still needed from the board of governors: U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, who controls the largest single block of shares, and ministers of finance of the other member governments.

The board of governors will hold its annual meeting in Washington at the end of this month.

Brannigan said its approval is needed because the World Bank wants to take the \$100 million from \$1 billion earned annually by its International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and use the money for grants by its International Development Association (IDA).

IBRD makes a profit by borrowing money at low rates on the market and lending it out at higher rates, but for longer periods than commercial banks give.

IDA makes loans to the poorest countries for as long as 50 years at less than one per cent interest, but normally does not make outright grants. It gets most of its money from direct contributions by 33 donor countries.

Brannigan pointed out that money owed by the poorest countries was lent largely by government and intergovernmental bodies like the World Bank. It is estimated that the total they owe commercial banks is about \$2 billion.

Jaeger Warnke, West Germany's minister for cooperation, told reporters last week that his country alone had cancelled 8.8 billion marks (more than \$4.4 billion) in loans over the past 10 years.

U.S. President George Bush announced in July that the United States will also be cancelling some debts, estimated at \$1 billion, to the poorest countries.

Draft Soviet budget aims to halve deficit in 2 years

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union, taking a leaf from Western economic text books, plans to sell off unprofitable companies and issue bonds to help halve a \$200 billion budget deficit by 1990.

The proposals, reported by the government newspaper Izvestia, are thought to represent the first time bonds have been issued and loss-making firms sold off since the 1920s.

They were published in a report of the draft budget to be presented to the autumn session of the Supreme Soviet, the legislative body of the new Soviet parliament.

"We began 1989 with a state budget deficit of 120 billion rubles (\$200 billion) and we will finish the year, according to finance ministry estimates, with the deficit at 95 billion rubles (\$160 billion)," Izvestia said.

"Soviet Finance Minister Valentin Pavlov has stated that in 1990, the state deficit will be 60 billion rubles (\$100 billion)," it added.

The figures appeared to include state borrowing from Soviet banks, which has in the past been excluded from the deficit figure to disguise its real size.

The state routinely borrows from huge savings held in state banks by people with little to spend it on, Western experts say.

Izvestia said one way to raise cash to cut the budget deficit would be through selling government bonds which would be issued either with a fixed annual interest rate of five per cent or as coupons without interest but which could be used in 1993 to buy consumer goods usually in short supply.

Izvestia said state income would also be increased by selling off unfinished or unprofitable plants to cooperatives. It did not give figures to indicate the scale of either project.

Among top figures involved in drawing up the draft was Leonid Abalkin, a prominent reformist economist who was appointed deputy prime minister this summer with the task of reversing the Soviet Union's economic decline.

"Sixty billion rubles is the highest deficit figure we can work with under present conditions," Izvestia quoted Abalkin as saying. "Our task is to transfer the unfavourable processes in the economy."

Izvestia said the planned growth in heavy industrial output had been kept down to 0.5 per cent, while manufacturing output was set to increase by 6.7 per cent, in line with pledges by the Soviet leadership to boost the consumer sector.

Skilled East Germans a hot commodity in West German industry

By Richard Murphy
Reporter

GIESSEN, West Germany — "Welcome to a new start in the Federal Republic of Germany. We can offer you a permanent job and a beautiful flat for you and your family."

The advertisement is one of hundreds attached to trees and lamp-posts outside West Germany's main camp for refugees from communist East Germany.

Although nearly two million West Germans are unemployed, newcomers arriving in droves from the East are being bombarded with job offers — if they have the right skills.

The street outside the camp at Giessen, north of Frankfurt, has become an unofficial labour market. Companies as far away as Bremen in the south are offering accommodation and transport as well as jobs.

"It is becoming virtually impossible to find specialist workers here through normal channels such as the unemployment office," said the manager of a Bremen construction company.

Some executives go ahead-hunting in person. Their gleaming Mercedes and BMW limousines, equipped with car phones, are in striking contrast to the humble Soviet-built Ladas.

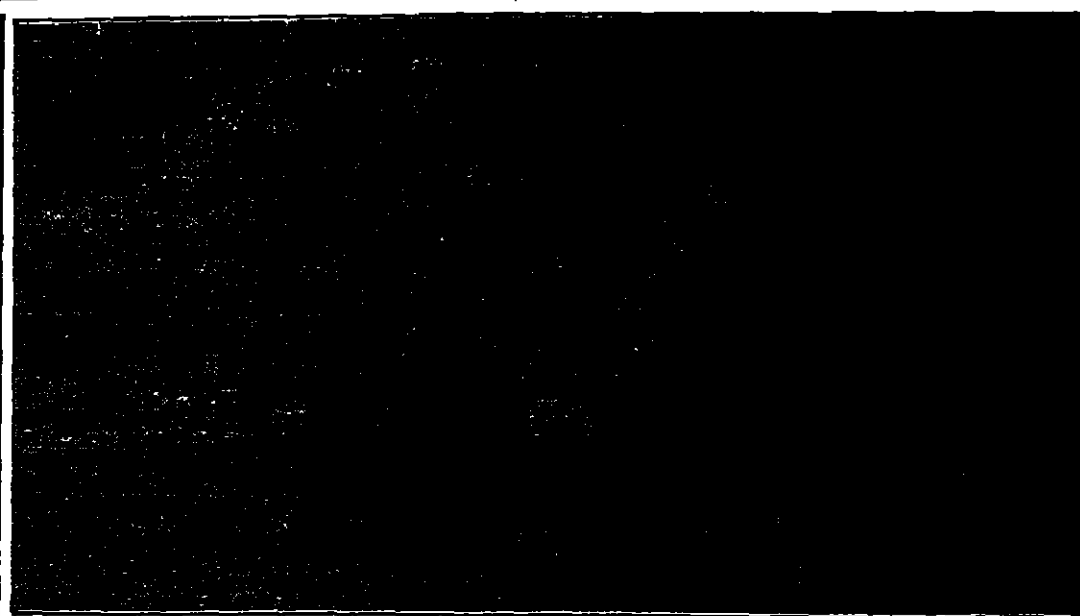
The most sought after staff are bricklayers, plumbers, electricians, mechanics, technicians, nurses and chemical workers.

Insurance companies have tried to hire people from Giessen while an old people's home from near Munich has parked a mobile recruitment office near the camp entrance. It is looking for nurses, cleaners and kitchen staff.

There is little demand for East German businessmen, academics or metal-workers, the labour office in Giessen says.

Bonn foresees high growth

BONN (R) — West German economic growth next year is likely to exceed forecasts so far and grow by at least three per cent, Finance Minister Theo Waigel has said. Waigel's prediction for Europe's largest economy was more optimistic than that made in August by Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann, who saw 1990 gross national product (GNP) growth of between 2.5 and three per cent. "In 1990 we are likely to have a three before the decimal point," Waigel said in a speech to parliament. The government expects 1989 growth of 3.5 per cent but the Bundesbank, West Germany's central bank, says growth of over four per cent is possible. Waigel said budgetary constraint was a key objective of government policy despite plans for a higher federal budget deficit next year. He said the 1990 deficit was expected to rise to 33 billion marks (\$16.6 billion) partly because of the introduction of income tax cuts.



A worker assembles parts at Peugeot Talbot's Rytan plant

Peugeot to set up maintenance centre in Algiers next year

ALGIERS (R) — The French vehicle manufacturer Peugeot S.A. will set up an engine overhaul centre in Algiers with an Algerian state firm, the Algerian news agency APS has said. APS said a Peugeot subsidiary would supply know-how, equipment and spare parts under an agreement signed with the Entreprise Nationale De Distribution De Vehicules Particuliers on July 27.

The centre is due to open in the third quarter of 1990, APS said. It did not give details how the project would be financed or owned.

Algeria, which is increasingly opening up its socialist economy to foreign firms, signed a cooperation protocol with Peugeot on July 9.

Algeria does not produce private cars and foreign manufacturers are not allowed dealerships. Spare parts are in short supply because of its shortage of hard currency.

Peugeot, Europe's number three carmaker after Fiat and Volkswagen, recently unveiled its new offering in the luxury car bracket, the Peugeot 605.

A Peugeot spokesman said the company had spent about six billion francs (\$900 million) on new production facilities for the 605, adding that it should boost the group's share of European car sales above 14 per cent in 1990.

Around 60 per cent of production would be exported, he said.

Volkswagen of West Germany and Fiat of Italy split top spot in Europe last year with about 14.9 per cent of the market each.

"The new executive car is one of the missing ingredients in the company's range," said Rob Golding of London brokers Warburg Securities.

The 605, with styling reminiscent of the smaller 405, is aimed

at a sector now dominated by West Germany's Mercedes-Benz and BMW.

"The real challenge is to take a bite out of the Germans' market," said analyst Christian Duchesne at Paris brokers Didier Philippe.

Peugeot is already Western Europe's fastest-growing car maker in terms of sales.

Anti-corruption war encircles top Chinese

BEIJING (AP) — China has moved to single out top government officials in a campaign against the pervasive corruption that helped trigger the student democracy protests that were crushed in June.

The official press has announced the latest accusation against Xu Yunian, the top-trade official in Guangdong province in southern China.

Last week the party Central Commission for Discipline and Inspection said it had detected several forms of corruption.

It said those include nepotism, embezzlement, profiteering, bribery, gift-giving, obtaining privileges for children, travelling abroad at public expense and using public money to build private homes.

The war on corruption has been accompanied by a Communist Party drive to weed out leading members corrupted by "bourgeois liberalisation," or support of Western political and cultural ideas.

Xu, director of the provincial foreign economic relations and trade committee, was dismissed from his post.

He is being investigated on charges of using 448,500 Hong Kong dollars (\$57,500) in public funds to buy an imported car and portable telephones for his private use.

He also used his position to obtain a spacious five-room apartment for his family, the official Xinhua news agency said.

The ministry of supervision announced that Tuohi Sabir, vice chairman of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, had been sacked for "abusing his power by supporting speculation and taking bribes."

The ministry said Sabir took bribes worth 16,000 yuan (\$4,324).

The supervision ministry said last week it was stepping up its investigation of high-ranking officials, or "tigers," and that the results would be made known by Oct. 1, the 40th anniversary of the founding of China.

The Communist Party has separately organised 25 groups to investigate major corruption cases in 13 provinces and autonomous regions.

The party's discipline inspection commission said it had received more than 1,000 complaints and reports involving officials at prefectural level or above in the first half of this year, 39 per cent more than in the same period of 1988.

"When corruption becomes widespread, the party will lose the people's trust, thus forfeiting its right to lead the nation,"

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Iraq gives incentives to farmers

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has raised government subsidies on several local agricultural products to encourage farmers to produce more and to reduce hard currency expenditure on food imports. Farmers will be paid between 30 and 50 per cent more for wheat, barley, yellow maize, rice and tobacco under the decision announced after a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council, the Baath Party leadership and the cabinet. Baghdad television said the increase would cost the government between 500 million dinars (\$1.6 billion) and 1.666 billion dinars (\$5.3 billion) a year. Trade Minister Mahdi Mohammad Saleh said in June that the government spent 235 million dinars (\$755 million) in 1988 on subsidies on imported foodstuffs.

IMF threatens Peru

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF), seeking to persuade Peru to repay its debt to the agency, has warned Peru that it could be forced out of the fund if it does not pay, monetary sources have said. The sources said IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus has written to tell President Alan Garcia's government that the IMF board could approve a "declaration of non-compliance with obligations to the fund" if Peru did not make payments on its \$750 million debt. The letter also noted that if Peru continued to refuse to pay, the ultimate step would be a "declaration of compulsory withdrawal," a virtual expulsion of the South American nation from the IMF, the sources said. Both steps would be unprecedented, the sources said. "Nobody knows what to do," a monetary source said. "Nobody has ever been in this position before."

Turkish court stops steel strike

ANKARA (R) — An Ankara court ordered an end Tuesday to a 125-day strike by workers at Turkey's main iron and steel plants, Anatolian News Agency said. The agency said the court stopped the strike, which the government had earlier delayed under labour laws relating to national security, on the grounds of "public order". The strikes at Karabuk near the Black Sea and Iskenderun on the Mediterranean crippled most of Turkey's iron and steel production, which totals nine million tonnes a year. The private Cukir-Is union representing the 24,000 striking workers

demanded pay rises of 550 per cent, which would take average wages to the equivalent to \$61 a month. The private Employers Metal Industrialists Union made what it said was a last offer of 350 per cent Sept. 1.

Wang unveils new personal computers

BOSTON (AP) — Wang Laboratories Inc., seeking to restore customer confidence and boost sales after a devastating loss and management shake-up, has unveiled a new line of four IBM-compatible personal computers (PCs). Analysts said the PCs, including one using International Business Machine Corp.'s micro channel architecture, were priced to compete with IBM, Compaq Computer Inc. and other manufacturers of integrated office systems for large corporate customers. "This should allow Wang to move out inventory and turn it into cash to reduce debt, which is the first thing they've got to do — get their balance sheet cleaned up," said Fred Pastore, a high technology analyst at Moody's Investors Service in New York. Wang reported a \$424 million loss for the fiscal year that ended June 30 and has announced plans to eliminate 2,200 of its 30,000 employees by the end of this month. It recently reshuffled its top management.

Walesa promotes Polish ambitions

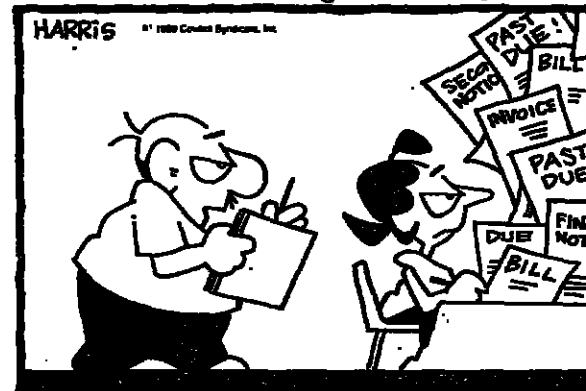
DUESSELDORF, West Germany (R) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa has urged industrialists to invest in Poland and save it from bankruptcy. "Poland is a wonderful country. There is plenty of business we can do together," Walesa said. "We don't want any cash. We are only making a business proposition. It's not too late, but the longer you wait the more expensive it will be (to revitalise the Polish economy)." Walesa last week called on Western Europe to invest \$10 billion in Poland to help a new Solidarity-led government save the economy, in disarray after more than 40 years of communist government.

Japan reveals speedy loan to Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has said his government will advance a portion of a \$2 billion loan it has promised to Mexico to help restructure its foreign debt. "Recently we have decided to advance \$1.4 billion to complement the Brady plan," Kaifu said at a news conference.

THE BETTER HALF.

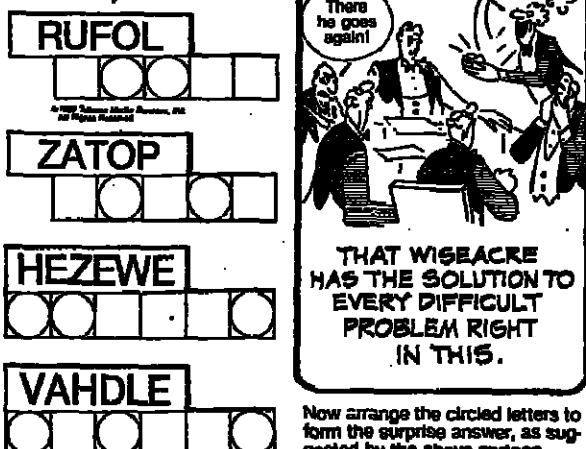
By Harris



"If we dress up like pigeons and mooch bread crumbs in the park, we can lower our grocery bill."

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

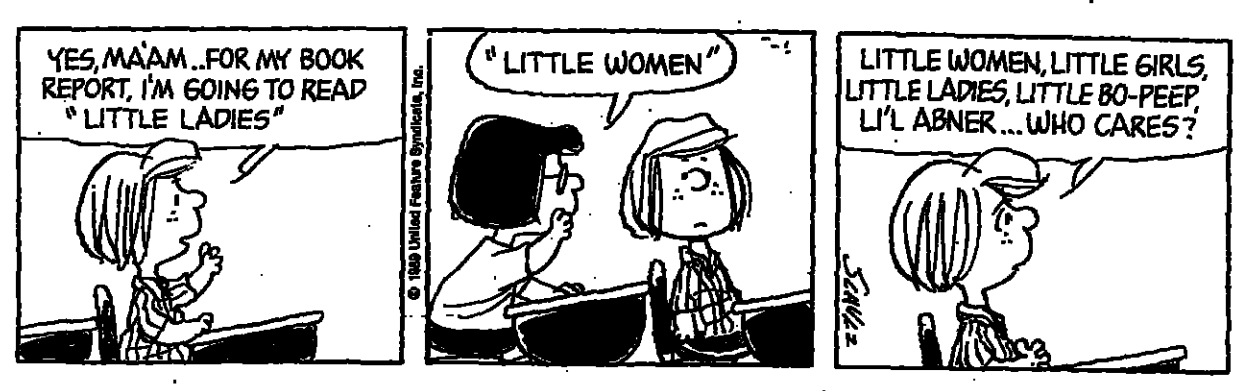


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

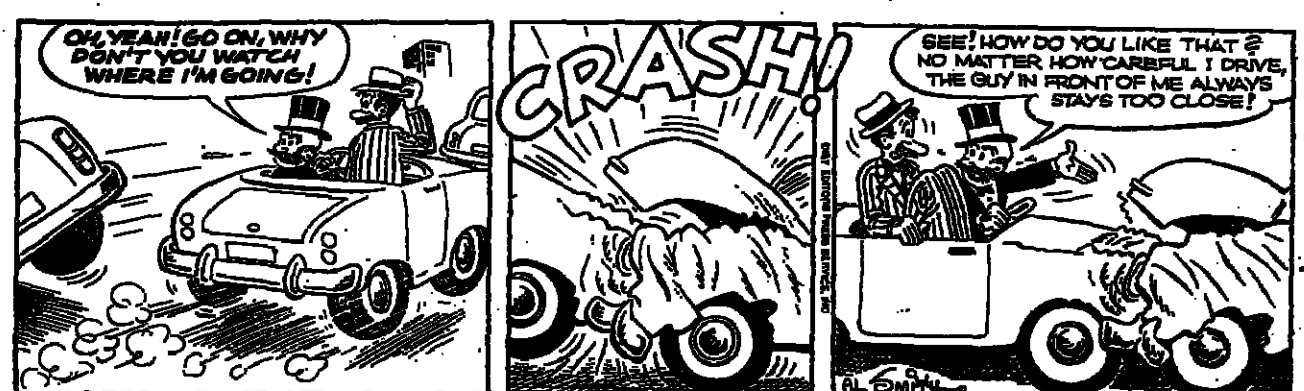
ANSWER: THE [] OF HIS [] (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: LOFTY THICK SADIST PILLAR
Answer: What he got as a result of careless driving — A "UP LASH!"

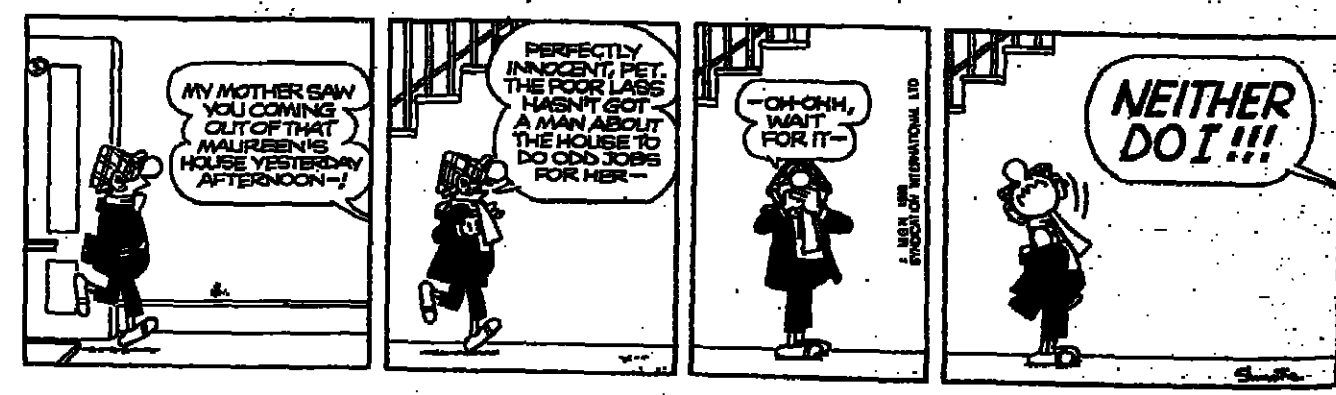
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, September 6, 1989

Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)	414.0	418.1
U.S. dollar	607.1	613.1	Dutch guilder	271.9	274.6
Pound Sterling	938.2	947.6	Swedish crown	91.0	91.9
Deutschmark	306.4	309.5	Italian lira (for 100)	42.8	43.2
Swiss franc	355.1	358.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	145.9	147.4
French franc	90.9	91.8			

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.5480/90	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.1782/92	Canadian dollar	
	1.9780/87	Deutschmarks	
	2.2293/300	Dutch guilders	
	1.7065/75	Swiss francs	
	41.36/39	Belgian francs	
	6.6630/700	French francs	
	1417/1418	Italian lire	
	146.45/55	Japanese yen	
	6.6630/80	Swedish crowns	
	7.1950/200	Norwegian crowns	
	7.6750/800	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	359.90/360.20	U.S. dollars	

U.S. baseball roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — Baltimore's Cal Ripken became the first shortstop in baseball history to hit 20 or more home runs in eight consecutive seasons and then doubled home the tie-breaking run in a two-run seventh as the Baltimore Orioles defeated the Cleveland Indians 3-1 Tuesday night.

After hitting his 20th home run with two out in the first, Ripken hit a tie-breaking double in the seventh following Steve Finley's two-out single off John Farrell, 8-14. Ripken scored an insurance run on Larry Sheets' double.

Ripken and Ernie Banks had been the only shortstops to hit 20 or more home runs in seven consecutive seasons. Banks hit 20 or more from 1955-61 for the Chicago Cubs before being shifted to first base.

Tigers 10, Royals 2

The Tigers won their fifth straight game for the first time since June 1988 as rookie Kevin Ritz pitched seven strong innings and Doug Strange's two-run double keyed a six-run first.

Twins 8, Rangers 4

Carmen Castillo's second home run of the game, a two-run shot, triggered a tie-breaking four-run seventh inning and Kevin Tapani scattered six hits over seven innings in his first major-league start.

Blue Jays 6, White Sox 1

Toronto's Dave Stieb pitched a three-hitter over seven scoreless innings and beat Chicago for the 18th time in 22 decisions as the Blue Jays remained one game ahead of Baltimore in the American League East.

Manny Lee drove in two runs with a double and a single off Steve Rosenberg while Mookie Wilson had a pair of singles and scored twice.

Athletics 13, Red Sox 1

Curt Young allowed one unearned run in five innings and Oakland scored four unearned runs in the third off Roger Clemens. The A's wrapped it up with eight runs against four Boston pitchers in the eighth.

Oakland's 3 and 1-2 game lead over Kansas City in the American League West is the A's largest of the season. The third-place Red Sox fell six games behind Toronto in the AL East.

Yankees 12, Mariners 2

Deion Sanders drove in four runs with a pair of doubles and one of New York's three homers as the Yankees won their sixth straight game.

The Yankees rapped off 17 hits, including home runs by Roberto Kelly and Steve Sax and a single, two doubles and three RBIs by Steve Balboni.

Meanwhile, Eric Plunk held Seattle to four hits in seven innings, including Jay Bulmer's two-run homer in the fourth.

Angels 8, Brewers 4

California returned home from a disastrous 4-11 road trip and snapped a five-game losing streak as Brian Downing and Chili Davis each homered and drove in three runs. The Angels have won six in a row at Anaheim stadium, where they are 45-23.

Argentine star meets teammates, coach

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona embraced his Italian teammates and shook hands with the team's new manager, Alberto Bigon, as he showed up at Napoli's training camp Tuesday, one month late.

However the 28-year-old player did not immediately resume training and did not meet Napoli's president, Corrado Ferlaino, with whom Maradona plans to discuss his soccer future.

Maradona told reporters that before practicing with the team, "I must first talk to Ferlaino, we

have many points to clear."

He also denied having held talks recently with French industrialist Bernard Tapie about his possible transfer to Olympique Marseille.

"With Marseille it was all over long ago," Maradona said. The Argentine ace met his teammates in the training camp of Soccavo as the team prepared to leave for Cesena for the third round of the Italian major league Wednesday night.

Despite the absence of Maradona and of Brazilians Careca and Alemão, Napoli captured an overall lead in the standings with four points after two matches.

"I knew there were no problems with the teammates," said Maradona, who added his relations with Bigon looked very friendly.

Bigon replaced Ottavio Bianchi, who often had tense relations with Maradona.

Club officials said Maradona and Ferlaino may meet Wednesday or Thursday.

The Latin American star, who helped Napoli win its first Italian title and the UEFA cup, returned to Italy Monday after repeated extensions of a vacation in his native Argentina which angered Napoli officials.

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By Barry Wilner
The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Goodbye, Chrissie. It's been great.

American Chris Evert's illustrious career ended Tuesday in the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open, beaten by Zina Garrison, 7-6, 6-2.

The classy master of the two-handed backhand, with peerless baseline groundstrokes and a nearly stoic on-court demeanor, has played her last big battle on the tour she graced for nearly two decades.

The end, at the tournament where she first made her mark by reaching the semifinals as a 16-year-old in 1971, was not a surprise.

Garrison, seeded fifth and ranked just behind Evert, beat Martina Navratilova in the same round last year. The crowd clearly was on the 34-year-old Evert's side. But time no longer is.

Evert will most certainly play the Federation Cup, some exhibitions and even a couple of tournaments. But her loss to Garrison was her last match in a grand slam event, the crown jewels of tennis.

"It's just playing a lot of matches in my career. I think that has caught up to me," Evert, 34, said. "Mentally, I cannot sustain that intensity every single match."

Goodbye, Chrissie

Evert, who reached stardom by making the U.S. Open semifinals in that year, 1971, looked back reflectively Tuesday.

"I think that as I got older, the victories meant more to me," said Evert, winner of 18 grand slam titles — six U.S. Opens, seven French championships, three Wimbledon and two Australian.

"I was feeling more of what they meant and the hard work that I put into them."

But the work had become too hard. "I've had letdowns this year and that puts me in with the average players," said Evert, who retired from the open with a record 101 victories.

"I was thinking I would be relieved when the tournament was over. But after losing a match like today, I'm not relieved. Two days ago, I thought I was playing the type of tennis I could challenge players. I had high hopes for myself."

Evert played like a teenager in beating 15-year-old Monica Seles 6-0, 6-2 in the fourth round. But that was as high as she could get.

Against Garrison, Evert actually led 5-2 in the first set. Even then, she admitted she wasn't really in control.

"I think it was more Zina putting me there," she said.

Evert was correct. Garrison finally got untracked, won four straight games, took the tie-breaker 7-1 and broke Evert's serve three times in the second set.

"It was probably the hardest match I've played in my life. It was such an emotional match," Garrison said. "I actually was really happy I was down 5-2. It made me relax."

"I thought I'd have a very good chance to beat her," added Garrison, who was 1-9 lifetime against Evert. "This time, I was going to make her beat me if she was going to beat me."

Because Evert couldn't handle the no. 5 seed, Garrison gets to meet a surging Martina Navratilova in Friday's semifinals.

Navratilova, who lost to Garrison in last year's open quarterfinals and hasn't won a grand slam tournament since the 1987 open, routed No. 7 Manuela Maleeva 6-0, 6-0 in a night match that took 46 minutes.

Navratilova obviously was relieved that it would be Garrison, and not her close friend Evert.

across the net in her next match. "It would have taken all my mental powers to put all those years of friendship aside," Navratilova said.

"One part of me wanted to play her and one part of me didn't. Emotionally, it will be easier. With Zina, it's a tennis match; with Chris, it would be a lot more."

She can do without the emotions Evert must have experienced Tuesday, with her superb career now behind her.

"You want to go out feeling that you played well," Navratilova said. "If you play well against somebody, it's easier to swallow. She put so much emotion into the Seles match, there was not much left."

Navratilova has plenty left. Navratilova recalls telling Anne Minter before the semifinals of the Canadian Open "that I'm playing as good as I did when I was No. 1," a ranking she surrendered to Steffi Graf in August 1987. "She didn't believe me, but when I played her, she said I convinced her ..."

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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TAKE THOSE TRICKS

Neither vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ J 10 5 4 2
♥ 5 2
♦ K 3
♣ A Q 10 4
EAST
♠ A K 9 8 6
♥ Q 7
♦ A Q 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 10 4
♣ 8 6 2
SOUTH
♠ Q 3
♥ A K J 10 8 6 4
♦ 2
♣ K 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
4♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

The choice of an unsupported ace as the opening lead is not to be recommended. Aces should be kept back to capture kings. In one instance, however, the lead of an unsupported ace is advisable. That is when there has been a preemptive bid, and there is the risk that declarer will be able to discard his losers. Watch what happened on this hand from a team event.

We don't endorse South's choice of four hearts as his opening bid. He has a normal one heart opening since he has defensive values outside his long suit. That would have made no difference to the final contract, as for the result ...

In keeping with the theory expressed above, West chose the ace of diamonds as his lead against four hearts, and East took the opportunity to signal with the jack. With the king in dummy it was unlikely that East wanted diamonds continued, so West read the jack as a suit preference signal. Accordingly, he shifted to a spade. East took the ace-king and persevered with a third spade. No matter whether declarer elected to ruff with the king or the jack, West's queen of trumps was promoted to the setting trick.

At the other table the contract was also four hearts. However, there South chose to open one heart and eventually reached game after North had shown both black suits.

When West led his singleton spade, the contract could no longer be defeated. The defenders started with three rounds of spades, but declarer did not ruff. He simply discarded his diamond loser, and all the defenders could get were two spade tricks and a ruff. Note that, if East shifts to a diamond after cashing two spade tricks, the defenders will not score a trump trick.

For information about Charles Goren's newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4226, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4226.

THE Daily Crossword by Bernard Moran

ACROSS

- 1 Explosive sound
- 2 Entertainment acronym
- 3 Social unit
- 4 Rose's love
- 5 Amazing Aeneas
- 6 "All roads lead to —"
- 7 Diplomatic suit
- 8 Postage, really?
- 9 Tonic
- 10 Witness
- 11 Pass catcher
- 12 Society page word
- 13 Slender dandelion
- 14 Church areas
- 15 Sub-subdiv
- 16 Attempts to collect armors
- 17 A Gaudian
- 18 Sea — H.
- 19 Influence
- 20 Saddle
- 21 Liar's place
- 22 Architect
- 23 Scientist
- 24 Try
- 25 Fashion magazine
- 26 Indian
- 27 Fattish spots
- 28 Score for
- 29 Retton
- 30 Mongrel
- 31 Dunderhead
- 32 Time zone letters
- 33 Ghem
- 34 Fawn sleep
- 35 Nicholas
- 36 Actor's award
- 37 Trafficon
- 38 South Wolfe
- 39 Rapists a root
- 40 Ion
- 41 Profound
- 42 Down
- 43 Club
- 44 Ash garments
- 45 Mole
- 46 Intake

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Sufficient
2. Dead and Red
3. Bottle top
4. War god
5. Originated
6. Dunder
7. Theater section
8. Prayer ending
9. Let's cousin
10. Rip
11. Lower to DDE
12. Act playfully
13. Stunned up
14. Soap
15. Grand
16. Delay
17. Clear the beard
18. Dress features
19. Ribs
20. Zola
21. Knows the — (a hip)
22. One
23. Dry
24. "Town"

FRIDAY'S RACES AT THE ROYAL RACING CLUB-TUNEIB

FIRST RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Amjed Khat Jarmay	Kaled	Owner	Dahan	56
2- Khatim Mohammed Tartory	S. Eljadh	Owner	Ahmad	56
3- Fouad Abdulrahman	Siran	Owner	Basil	56
4- Fayad El Assel	Doha	Owner	Rashed	54.5
5- Rashed Mohammed	Moshtakal	Owner	Yousef	53
6- Ghali A. Jalir	Elwalei	Owner	Kasim	53
7- Ahmad Hail Elmeyan	Elalla	Owner	Yousif	51.5
8- Shihadi Al Fokar	N. Nalel	Owner	Yousif	51.5
9- Nadir Saterah Hamad	F. Nadir	Owner	George	49.5
10- Dr. A. El Naeem A. Wandy	S. Masen	Owner	Jamal	48.5
11- Oudh El Abady	A. Mousa	Owner	Hary	48.5
12- A. El Satar Matar	W. Sall	Owner	Hary	48.5

THIRD RACE 5.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mohammed Salmen Nablosy	M. Salmen	Owner	54.5	
2- Fouad Mohammed El Assel	Nijmih	Owner	Rashed	54.5
3- Bashar Mithrifi Baralsh	Israa	Owner	Salami	53.5
4- Talib El Naher	Badir	Owner	Kasim	53
5- Eled Sulman Khawathir	S. Eled	Owner	Kasas	53
6- Mislal Khalaf Khatlan	Rizan	Owner	Yousif	51.5
7- Talel Mohamed Awwadh	Samhan	Owner	Yousif	51.5
8- Nasrallah Salim	Mawah	Owner	Anwar	51.5
9- Sakir Fahad Lawanah	M. Tark	Owner	Jamal	50
10- Samir Khalil Haddadin				

SECOND RACE 4.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Khalid Hamad Ayyad	Borkan	Owner	56	
2- Mashhour Faisal A. Jnab	T. El Thanaya	Owner	56	
3- Mashhour Faisal A. Jnab	Shafaf	Owner	53	
4- Nimir El Hmoud	Azary	Rida	51.5	
5- Nimir El Hmoud	Dinar	Rida	50	
6- H.H. Late Sheriff Nasir Stable	F. Amman	Abbas	50	
7- Ghali Haddadin	Nar	Owner	50	
8- Rashed Khalil Haddadin	Hanady	Adnan	Rashed	48.5

FOURTH RACE 5.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- H.H. Late Sheriff Nasir Stable	S. Elkhail	Abbas	Anwar	56
2- H.H. Late Sheriff Nasir Stable	Kareem	Abbas	Mousa	56
3- H.H. Late Sheriff Nasir Stable	Hamdanih	Abbas	Said	51.5
4- Nimir El Hmoud	I. Rababan	Rida	56	
5- Nimir El Hmoud	Janzir	Rida	56	
6- Nimir El Hmoud	Barary	Rida	54.5	
7- Mohammed Salim Rabalah	Monyaty	Owner	54.5	
8- Samy Haddadin	Wahed	Owner	56	
9- Ghali Haddadin	Yamamih	Owner	54.5	
10- Eled A. El Naby	H. Eled	Owner	Rashed	54.5
11- Mansour Anwar Shalan	Mahroub	Zaidan	George	50

FIFTH RACE 6.00 FOR THIRD & SECOND CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Ghali Haddadin	Selek	Owner	Salami	59
2- Ziad Samy Yacoub Madros	Minkareem	Adnan	59	
3- Nimir El Hmoud	El Hana	Rida	Hary	57.5
4- Ibrahim Hary Baharat	F. Khair	Khalid	56	
5- Salim Mohammed A. Rawaa	El Mayes	Owner	Ahmad	56
6- Hary El Hadd	Rosa	Owner	Mosafa	54.5
7- Aly Fares El Saad	F. Noel	Khalid	Rashed	54.5
8- Fawaz Anwar Shalan	Asheer	Zaidan	George	50

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Kenneth David & Brenda Bakke in
SCAVENGERS

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema ALJOUH

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DANCE WITH A STRANGER

Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema PLAZA

Tel: 677420

Mohammad Subhi & Sabrin in
AGENT NUMBER 13
(Arabic)

Show: 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



A Colombian soldier waits for the order to advance during a raid to a suspected hitman's house in Medellin. The Colombian Armed Forces have increased their activity following bombings believed to be carried out by drug barons.

Bombs hit Colombia as Bush unveils plan

MEDELLIN, Colombia (Agencies) — At least three bombs rocked Colombia's cocaine capital and one exploded in Bogota, minutes after U.S. President George Bush ended a televised speech unveiling a tough anti-drugs strategy.

"These attacks are more of the terrorist escalation that we have been living through," a police spokeswoman said of the incidents Tuesday night.

Hours earlier, gunmen shot dead an army colonel's wife in Bogota and officials said the country's drug lords might be stepping up their war by attacking relatives of security forces engaged in a nationwide crackdown.

Police said two bombs hit two banks in Medellin, 400 kilometers northwest of the capital, Bogota.

Another bomb at a fashionable restaurant caused serious damage and slightly injured two American television journalists of the Miami-based Spanish-language Univision network.

Hospital officials identified the journalists as Carlos Ignacio Corrales and Bernadette Pardo. In Bogota, dynamite exploded in front of a telephone exchange box, knocking out 3,000 telephone lines, police said. No one was injured.

The police spokeswoman said the bombings were believed to be the work of "The Extraditables,"

a shadowy group identified with drug traffickers and vehemently opposed to extradition of suspects to the United States.

"The Extraditables" declared an all-out war against the Colombian government last month after President Virgilio Barco launched an unprecedented crackdown on the drug trade.

A fire department captain said the force of the blast at one of the Medellin banks injured a woman living across the street. She suffered cuts from broken glass.

Police said the first two bombs exploded about 8:30 p.m. minutes after Bush's speech, which was not broadcast live in Colombia.

In his speech Bush pledged to use U.S. military force abroad if asked by foreign leaders.

But a Colombian government spokesman reiterated Barco's opposition to any combat role for U.S. forces in the country's war against the drug barons.

He said the government was happy to receive "technical cooperation" to fight its drug war, but had definitely ruled out any foreign troops.

Force not needed to quell Baltic unrest, party says

VILNIUS (R) — Lithuania's Communist Party chief has said he could not rule out the possibility that the Kremlin might use military force to quell unrest in the Baltic republics but he believed it would be unnecessary.

Aldas Brazauskas said the Lithuanian party would consider a formal split from the Soviet Communist Party — a step almost certain to set the republic on a collision course with Moscow.

He spoke during an interview Tuesday with correspondents from Reuters, the New York Times and the French newspaper Liberation.

Referring to the use of troops previously to quell disorders elsewhere, he said: "I cannot categorically say that this is impossible in the Baltic republics. 'I hope and believe that this will never be necessary.'"

Brazauskas suggested that Kremlin conservative Yegor Ligachev overreacted Saturday when he demanded political measures to cool national passions in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

"I don't know what he means 'political measures.' I don't think we need any measures at all. The republic is working normally," he said.

He noted that the Kremlin had used troops and military curfews before but not elaborate.

In the past 18 months troops have been sent to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan to deal with ethnic clashes in which more than 200 people have been killed.

Troops and tanks were used to break up a nationalist demonstration in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, in April this year. Twenty demonstrators were killed.

Brazauskas said the party central committee in Moscow had not discussed the use of force but added that the Kremlin's attitude depended to a great extent on the behaviour of the Lithuanian mass movement Sajudis and its Russian-speaking opponent Yedinstvo.

Sajudis, like the popular fronts in Estonia and Latvia, has pressed for more autonomy for the republic with the goal of eventual

independence. The success of the Baltic movements has led to the formation of similar groups in other republics, where there has also been a surge of national awareness accompanied by a defensive response from the Russian-speaking minority.

In Moldova, tens of thousands of Russian workers are on strike in protest against a law replacing Russian with Moldavian as the republic's official language.

A one-week general strike has been called in Azerbaijan, this time by the Popular Front in support of its demands for greater autonomy and recognition by the party and government.

The central committee in Moscow attacked the Baltic movements last month, saying they were causing "nationalist hysteria," and threatening to tear the country apart.

The statement did not criticise Russian organisations such as Yedinstvo which have organised or threatened strikes in all three Baltic republics in protest against what they considered to be laws discriminating against them.

German 'business as usual' despite refugees

BONN (R) — Despite rising tension over their biggest refugee crisis since the Berlin Wall was built, East and West Germany are working hard to ensure that "business as usual" continues in all other fields.

But their most burning issue — this year's expected exodus of about 100,000 East Germans, the most to flood into West Germany since 1961 — has not been discussed formally since Aug. 18, officials said Wednesday.

Bilateral trade is up, officials are discussing topics such as education and pollution and Bonn and East Berlin have just agreed to continue a series of working meetings on agriculture.

But officials saw no signs of movement in the long-awaited departure of about 5,000 East Germans from Hungary, which appears to have been stalled while Budapest tries to work out a solution acceptable to its angered allies in East Berlin.

Western diplomats in East Berlin said it appeared no politburo members would take initiative to discuss the refugee question while party leader Erich Honecker, 77, is absent for a long recovery from a gall bladder operation.

Speaking in parliament Tuesday, Chancellor Helmut Kohl criticised East Berlin's refusal to introduce reforms to make life better for the 16 million Germans in the communist state.

But he said Bonn could not solve East Berlin's problems and pointed to its contacts with the orthodox Communist leadership there as the best way for Bonn to help fellow Germans.

Rejecting occasional calls for Bonn to punish East Berlin for its hardline stand, Kohl said: "The West German government is determined to continue its policy of practical cooperation with East Germany in the interest of people on both sides."

"I will not do anything that could worsen the fate of the people over there in East Germany," he announced to rare calls of "very good" from the opposition benches.

The latest example of continuing cooperation came Tuesday evening when Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle returned from East Berlin and announced politburo member Werner Krolikowski would visit West Germany in November for further farm talks.

An East German state secretary is here this week to exchange views of higher education and technical training and visit West German schools in the Bonn area.

East Berlin's Environment Minister Hans Reichelt discussed environmental problems Tuesday with Hamburg Mayor Henning Voscherau.



A GROUP OF East German refugees waits to board a bus in Budapest which will take them from the overcrowded Cailleberg refugee camp to another camp in Zanka Utirovares.

British jester in hot waters over royal jokes

By Jessica Baldwin
The Associated Press

LONDON — They are not amused at the Royal Britain Exhibition. The management banished the court jester Tuesday for telling jokes about the royal family.

Actor James Lovell was suspended without pay, but can have his job back if he cuts the offending material from his act, his bosses said.

"Some of his jokes are a little bit tacky and he doesn't know exactly where to draw the line," said Kim Keble-White, the exhibition's marketing director.

Lovell, 24, who travels to and from work in his ticorn hat, bells and quartered red and green, was not available for comment after being suspended. But earlier he refused to alter his repertoire.

"He is acting with artistic pique," Keble-White said.

Among the jokes that got the clown in trouble: "What is small, silent and lonely and lives in a stable? Captain Phillips" — a jibe at shy, horse-loving Mark Phil-

lips, whose separation from his wife, Princess Anne, was announced last week.

Another feature of Lovell's act for visitors to the exhibition on British royalty is a parody of Prince Charles's eccentricities. A three-minute monologue features the heir to the throne talking to a sunflower. It was inspired by Charles's revelation some years back that he talks to his plants to encourage their growth.

The managers of Unicorn heritage, which owns Royal Britain, say Lovell overstepped his job, which was to make fun of past royalty, not the present inhabitants of Buckingham Palace.

"I said to James, 'we'd love you to carry on old chap, but it must be jokes of the period,'" Keble-White said in an interview.

"I am nervous that some of the jokes could be offensive and we want to prevent people from coming here thinking we want to win some cheap laughs."

"I've been making a few little rudies," admitted Lovell, who peppers his conversation, on- and off-stage, with medievalisms.

"They come out because I'm a spontaneous jester, my liege. I don't write my riddles down. I suddenly think of something and if I think of Fergie as a big red thing then that's alas what she is."

Fergie is the nickname of the red-haired Duchess of York, whose waistline is avidly watched by the tabloid press. Another of Lovell's anti-Fergie jokes mocks her for leaving her year-old daughter with a nanny when she goes on holiday.

Lovell, who worked as a clown and stage actor before taking on the role of Will Somers, Henry VIII's jester, in January, said his duty was to behave as a medieval clown.

"I am a jester, my liege, and I, a jester, is licensed to say whatever I wish so if they don't like it they can right royally stuff it," he told London Broadcasting Corporation radio.

Keble-White said he has received no complaints from Buckingham Palace or from the 500,000 people who have visited

the exhibition in London's financial district since it opened in August last year.

But he said the palace cooperated in setting up the exhibition, "so it's important we not fall from grace."

Royal Britain depicts this country's history through royalty, featuring the lives of 52 kings and queens with dummies in period dress. Among its exhibits are blowups of contemporary newspaper front pages dealing with royalty, and visitors can vote on whether the press treats the royals fairly. So far, says Keble-White, the majority thinks the press is unfair.

"We certainly don't want to lose James," Keble-White said. "He was doing a superb job before, so why break a winning formula?"

Lovell recognises that he has irritated his bosses, "but Lord fool him for being thus inflamed for I am the fool and therefore for him to get inflamed by my foolery makes him a fool, for sure."

Salvadorean rebels seek peace talks

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Salvadorean rebels have discarded their previous conditions and accepted an offer by the country's new president to hold talks aimed at ending the country's 10-year-old civil war.

At a news conference Tuesday at their headquarters in Mexico City, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) proposed that the peace talks begin next week.

"We're taking away practically all obstacles," said Ana Guadalupe Martinez, a rebel commander.

There was no immediate response from the Salvadorean government, but it did announce a 48-hour ceasefire to begin Sept. 14 and coincide with the celebration of Central America's independence from Spain in 1821.

If the Salvadorean government agrees to peace talks, it would be the first meeting between representatives of the belligerents since rightist President Alfredo Cristiani took office June 1 and called for negotiations.

The guerrillas agreed at the time, but the effort stalled because of a failure to work out details.

In a significant softening of previous rebel conditions, Martinez said the rebels would bargain with any committee the government names.

Before, they had insisted that an army representative and high-level officials join them at the negotiating table. They rejected one delegation the government considered on the grounds that its members would not have the power to negotiate.

The rebel coalition represents five left-wing guerrilla groups that have been fighting a succession of U.S.-backed Salvadorean governments since 1979.

In announcing the ceasefire Tuesday in El Salvador, Col. Innocente Montano, the vice minister of defense, did not mention the rebel proposal for peace talks. But he told reporters the ceasefire "is a positive initiative ... as long as it is respected" by the rebels.

A ceasefire for the independence festivities had been suggested Monday by the Permanent Committee of the National Dialogue for Peace, an organization representing more than 70 church, union, humanitarian and civic groups.

COLUMN

New attempt to solve shroud of Turin

ROME (R) — Up to 300 scientists and historians will take a new look this week at the Turin shroud judged to be a medieval fake last year but still believed by some Catholics to be Christ's burial cloth. Last October, the Vatican announced that carbon-dating tests at laboratories in Switzerland, Britain and the United States showed that the cloth was 95 per cent certain to date between 1260 and 1390. Scientists at the symposium in Paris Thursday and Friday will try to explain how the three-dimensional, blood-stained image of a bearded, crucified man was produced on the cloth. Several say it dates from the days of Roman rule over Palestine. Italian Walter Maggiorani, who has studied the shroud since 1981, said Tuesday he would present the conference with details of the "resurrection" theory. "I have believed all along that this is the only way to explain the riddle of the shroud," he said. Maggiorani's theory, which has been supported by American physicists,

Stay cool with 'psst-psst-psst'

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the unbearable feeling of climbing into a sun-baked car, Dr. Domingo Tan has a remedy: a few squirts from his air-conditioner in a can. Tan, a Chinese-born physicist who lives near Washington, invented instant car cooler, an aerosol spray containing 10 per cent ethyl alcohol and 90 per cent water mixed with a mint fragrance. In less than three weeks, Tan and his two business partners have received orders for more than 25,000 cans from prospective distributors from New York to Texas, and as far away as Austria and Switzerland. One exporter wants to ship instant car cooler to the Middle East, where Tan says the heat inside automobiles can soar to 165 degrees Fahrenheit (74 degrees Celsius) or more. He demonstrated on a recent sweltering day by opening the door of his aging Dodge Sedan. Even with a cardboard sunshade in the windshield, a large circular thermometer dangling over the front seat registered 122 degrees Fahrenheit (50 degrees Celsius). Tan leaned into the car and pointed his can of instant car cooler. "psst-psst-psst." Within half a minute, the thermometer had plunged to 80 degrees Fahrenheit (27 degrees Celsius).

Human-eating fish slumps market

COLOMBO (R) — Prices in Sri Lanka's main fish market have slumped, partly on consumer fears the fish may be eating human bodies floating into the sea. "I'm not eating fish any more. How can I eat my own flesh and blood?" said a housewife in the capital, Colombo. Bloodfish: used in curries, fetched just 80 rupees (\$2.3) a kg Wednesday in the fly-infested St. John's market. A taxi driver said the price of big fish had fallen most. "They are the ones that eat the bodies," he said. Two weeks ago bloodfish cost 120 rupees a kg, according to the capital's market traders. The island's government is locked in a desperate and bloody battle with left-wing rebels seeking its overthrow. Both sides employ torture and murder, and increasing numbers of bodies have been found floating down Sri Lanka's rivers into the sea. The killings and a series of rebel-inspired strikes have hit the economy and market traders said business and prices, including the cost of fish, had also plunged because of the economic depression.

Casino gambling splits Mohawk Indian reservation

By William Kates
The Associated Press

HOGANSBURG, New York — Casino gambling holds out the lure of big money for impoverished Indians, but it has created internal strife and violence on the St. Regis Akwesasne Indian reservation. The reservation that straddles the U.S.-Canada border is home to about 5,000 members of the Mohawk tribe. Casino operations employ about 500 of them.

One of seven gambling houses on the reservation has been burned and guns have been fired in recent weeks — and the violence threatens to escalate.

Pro- and anti-gambling fac-

tions squared off again Saturday when about 25 Indians barricaded themselves inside a bingo hall, but state police said there were no arrests and injuries reportedly were minor during the fracas.

"The lawlessness on Akwesasne is out of control," said Michael Mitchell, grand chief of the Canadian Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, who has declared a state of emergency on the reservation. "Never before has the threat of violence been so real."

At least 11 people were injured in a clash between Mohawks and state troopers during a 10-day standoff in July, after the troopers and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) raided the Casinos.

Now, a self-appointed security force equipped with automatic weapons, the Warriors Society, guards against outside intrusion, and state police visit rarely and only under strict conditions.

On the reservation, anti-gambling vigilante groups spontaneously attack the Casinos, whose owners employ armed security guards.

"It's just crazy now — complete chaos," said Harold Tarbell, an elected chief who opposes gambling.

"People are pushed into a corner because it has dragged, on so long," said Edward Smoke, another anti-gambling leader. "There's a lot of people saying, 'we have to take it into our own hands.'"

Opponents argue against gambling on moral grounds and say it will attract criminal elements. Advocates view it as a form of economic development, bringing millions of dollars onto the reservation.

Until most of the casinos were closed following a July 20 raid, busloads of people from both sides of the border would visit the reservation's gambling parlors.

Mohawks who support gambling say the reservation is a sovereign nation, not subject to state and federal laws against gambling. The U.S. Supreme Court in 1987 banned state and local regulation of gambling on reservations until Congress allows the regulation.

But leaders of the three tribal governments that claim jurisdiction at St. Regis oppose gambling, and federal and state authorities, saying Akwesasne leaders asked them, have raided the casinos several times. In the last two raids in June and July, authorities arrested 13 people on federal gambling charges and seized 300 slot machines.

The July 20 raid prompted the standoff between state police and Mohawks, with troopers cutting off the reservation from the outside world for several days.

After the clash, state police did not return to the reservation until Warriors Society leaders set guidelines demanding that troopers notify them

in advance when they wish to enter the reservation, and then come in an unmarked car and wait for an escort.

In August, there was a confrontation involving more than 500 people — many brandishing bats or knives. Afterwards, firebombs were tossed into Veronica Adams' newly converted casino, badly damaging it. Gambling supporters blamed anti-gambling forces, county fire officials suspect arson and continue to investigate.

Asked who burned her casino, Adams shook her head in disbelief and said, "People I thought were my friends. Everyday people that live on the reservation."

"They came in with guns and shot up my door," Adams charged.

"If I am threatened again, I will retaliate," she said. "I tried to be calm and tried to go by the books."

Maracle said there is an urgent need for the various factions to work out their differences — without outside interference.

"We don't want to be fighting Indian against Indian people," said Maracle, whose group advocates sovereignty but has remained neutral on gambling.

"Hatred and hard feelings causes segregation in our community. In order for the barriers to come down, we have to sit down and reason with each other," he said.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	09	14	57° Cloudy
ATHENS	20	28	68° 31° Cloudy
BANGKOK	26	33	79° 91° Clear
Buenos Aires	10	20	50° 68° Rain
CAIRO	22	34	80° 93° Clear
CHICAGO	15	20	57° 68° Rain
COSENZANO	08	16	46° 61° Clear
FRANKFURT	08	14	46° 57° Clear
GENOVA	10	18	50° 64° Cloudy
HONG KONG	28	32	80° 90° Clear
ISTANBUL	20	28	68° 82° Clear
LONDON	15	22	57° 72° Clear
LOS ANGELES	18	26	64° 79° Clear
MADRID	16	20	61° 68° Cloudy
MECCA	28	34	82° 93° Clear
MONTREAL	08	14	46° 57° Cloudy
MOSCOW	10	18	50° 64° Cloudy
NEW DELHI	25	32	77° 90° Clear
NEW YORK	11	22	52° 72° Cloudy
PARIS	11	18	52° 64° Clear
ROME	15	22	57° 72° Cloudy
SYDNEY	11	22	52° 72° Clear
TOKYO	24	27	75° 81° Cloudy
VIENNA	12	18	54° 64° Cloudy